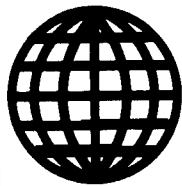


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PAKISTAN

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Near East & South Asia

PAKISTAN

JPRS-NEA-92-041

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3 April 1992

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

U.S. Meddling Regarding Relations With Central Asia

92AS0756E Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 21 Feb 92
pp 22, 23

[Article by Mukhtar Husan: "U.S. Conspiracy Against Relations With Central Asia"]

[Text] During the last few months—especially the last two—when the Soviet Union, spread over one-sixth of the world's dry land, disintegrated, foreign newsmen and research scholars rushed to Pakistan. During this time, India's senior journalists and writers and those familiar with this region also visited Pakistan. In a seminar where only former Pakistani generals, present high-level military officials, former ambassadors and bureaucrats, present administrators, university professors, and some intellectuals were participating, they were surprised to find that while discussing various topics, all of these foreign journalists and "research scholars," after asking two to four common questions, began to ask about Pakistan and Central Asia. They wanted to find out if Pakistan was making progress or if there were any possibilities of an "Islamic union" while talking with these newly independent Muslim nations. They also wanted to know what possibility there was of such a union or a Muslim bloc. They also asked questions of these people, who had a lot of influence on the government, national agencies, and government policies, what they thought about Pakistan's relations with Central Asian countries.

The Indian newsmen, while also talking about Indian-Pakistani relations and Kashmir, mainly concentrated on Pakistan's relations with Central Asia. These foreign newsmen and scholars were suffering from many delusions and wanted to know how much nuclear technology had Pakistan obtained from the Central Asian states, especially from Kazakhstan, the only Islamic country with nuclear capabilities. "How many nuclear scientists has Pakistan employed from there and from the Russian federation?" Some were even suffering from extreme skepticism and asked wild questions like, "How many atom bombs has Pakistan bought from its brother country, Kazakhstan?"

Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the five Muslim republics of Central Asia—Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan—are seven countries that are situated in one geographic region and are tied by common cultural, racial, and economic interests, in addition to Islam. The Central Asian countries joined by the northwestern Muslim subcontinent are Pakistan (including Kashmir) and Afghanistan. If these countries are not broken by some conspiracy, then we will develop such a close relationship that there will be no separation. The ancient name of Central Asia is Mavaran-nahr, which means "on the other side of the river Amu." The scholars, learned men, and intellectuals of Central Asia used to come to Kabul, Peshawar, Lahore, Thath, and the capital of the Muslim world, Delhi. They used to get appointments to positions from teachers to ministers without being called foreigners. This region shares a common culture which, in addition to

having a religious homogeneity, has also had common philosophy. Iqbal wrote about his poetry that he was influenced by Maulana Rumi's school of thought. He associated it with the Kharasani school of thought. He referred to the influence of Jamal Tujjalal on this school. According to him, this school of literature focused on thought. The other school is from Persia, which is influenced by Jamal. The more prominent literary figures from this school are Omar Khayyam and Hafiz Sherazi. According to present research, this literature is very respectable and has an important part in Kharasani literature. The Iran of Omar Khayyam and Hafiz Sherazi also shared religious beliefs with the subcontinent and Central Asia. During the beginning of sixteenth century, the Persian religious factions separated from Central Asia and the subcontinent during the Sufi kings period.

In other words, when the religion was common, the nature of literature in the northwestern part of the subcontinent and in Central Asia was different than that of Iran. This whole region has its own culture, customs, and its own world. It became much more prevalent during the three centuries of Mogul emperors. During the first half of the nineteenth century, when British colonialism in the southeast and Soviet colonialism in the northeast began to take over the Muslim region, there developed a vacuum between the Muslim subcontinent and Central Asia. These relations were weakened during the second half of the nineteenth century when European generals and British colonists helped Ranjit Singh's empire to spread through Punjab, Peshawar, and Kashmir, and because of the first Afghan war in 1839-42, British occupation of Sindh in 1846 and of Punjab and Peshawar in 1849, civil war in Afghanistan between 1842 and 1855, the Second Afghan War of 1879-81, and the Russian control over Khavbua [as published] and Tashkent. What is worse, Great Britain and Russia divided this region according to the 1906 and 1907 Petersburg agreements. The Russian and British agreed to a "control line" on the Amu River in Afghanistan. This border between the subcontinent and Central Asia was not decided by Afghanistan and Bukhara; it was decided by Britain and Russia. This line of control divided a monolithic region spread from Sindh and Baluchistan on the Arabian Sea to the Siberia across the Pamirs and the Hindukush into two parts.

Both colonists' empires, in order to fulfill their imperialist designs, continued the program of separatism. However, in spite of all this, some trade contact with Bukhara continued. The communists arrived and with the end of the semi-independent regime of Bukhara, an iron curtain was raised on the river Amu and the Korakoram Desert. This iron curtain was damaged by a communist military coup in April 1978 and a communist, Taraki, was crowned in Kabul. In December 1979, the Soviet Union destroyed this iron curtain by itself with its aggression in Afghanistan. The Soviet plan was to take over Pakistan and reach the warm waters of Makran; however, because of the courage of the Afghan mujahidin, the Pakistani people, and the Pakistani Government, the mountains of Afghanistan changed into such quicksand that by the time Soviet troops got out of it, they were almost dead. After the defeat in Afghanistan on 15

February 1989, within 34 months—on 21 December 1991—the 73-year-old communist colonialist regime melted along with its iron curtain and its iron foundation.

The disintegration of the Soviet empire removed all the iron curtains and blocks between the Muslim subcontinent and Central Asia that were there for the last 150 years, and especially during the last 70 years. The union of this region is a natural phenomenon. If we keep these seven countries—Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the five Central Asian nations—separate, it would be a very unnatural act. Karachi and the Makran coast are twice or thrice nearer to Tashkent and Alma Ata than the Atlantic Ocean and Vladivostok, Odessa on Black Sea, and St. Petersburg (Leningrad) on the Baltic. The cultural mood of these regions has been getting harmonizing during the last one and one-half to two years. Now they are working on economic aspects. If the seven countries remain separate, then their economic and later, political, existences will be obliterated.

These foreign journalists and “research scholars” were making guesses behind the facade of unimportant and wild questions about how well aware Pakistan’s real thinkers and people in authority are of this situation. The people with power from the West are implementing the unfair and impractical UN resolutions and are trying to force the puppet of government of Najibullah and the people into a civil war. In the past, this formula had been used to start civil wars in Afghanistan and in having the Afghans fight among themselves for the throne of Kabul. This formula is still being followed and what is worse, the Government of Pakistan is being deceived by the West, especially the United States of America, with false promises of aid. They are jeopardizing their goals for Afghanistan. As a result of this, a government might be established in Afghanistan that is not friendly to Pakistan and is not able to maintain peace there. Without involving the large organization of the mujahidin and without getting their approval, any resolution of the Afghanistan problem, with or without the approval of the West, will not succeed. Meanwhile, the so-called journalists and research scholars of the West are raising the question of an Islamic union and a new Islamic bomb in this region and are forcing the government officials of Pakistan to be more apologetic.

It is all very simple. If we do not call the European Common Market, which is not really a common market now and is moving toward becoming a common nation because of a common currency, a “Christian union,” then how can we call an economic cooperation between the subcontinent, the Muslim nations, the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] of Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey—in which ten countries including Azerbaijan are planning to join—an Islamic union? Why are they declaring it a Muslim bloc? If theirs is not a Christian union, then why is not an economic union in this region of Asia called a reformation union?

The whole attention of the crafty politicians of the West is focused on Pakistan’s capabilities. Pakistan can become the locus point for the five freed countries of Central Asia as well as of Caucasus (Kufkaz, the Kaf mountain) and the Muslim country of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan is mentioned here because the Iranian Government could not establish

relations with it in spite of its common border and its religious and racial relations with it, according to the wishes of the government and the people of Azerbaijan. Meanwhile, the border of western Azerbaijan joins Turkey for a few miles. However, the “bloody miles” of Armenia are between the western part of Azerbaijan and the remaining country. This way, Turkey cannot establish direct contact with Azerbaijan’s capital, Baku. Opposed to it, the Turkish Azaris have access to Pakistan by land via Kashka, Harat, Kandhar, and Chaman to reach Pakistan after crossing the Caspian Sea and Turkmenia.

This capability of Pakistan is bothering the West. The Pakistani subcontinent’s and the Central Asian nations’ geographic, economic, and cultural similarities are causing serious problems to Western planners. These five countries in Central Asia can have access through Pakistan to the economic giant of Japan and the “tigers” in the Far East, also known as Taiwan, Korea, and Singapore. These countries can cooperate with Pakistan for their trade goals also. The harmless, innocent, and natural economic cooperation between these seven countries—Pakistan, independent Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan—just cannot be tolerated by the Western planners, especially the United States of America, which is so eager to establish its new world order. The British and Russian colonialists shrunk themselves while trying to stop this union. The Soviet Union even disappeared from the world map. Let us see how long the United States of America will continue to waste its energy in creating conspiracies against of the sharp blade of history.

UN Asked To Send Fact-Finding Mission to Kashmir

Foreign Office Briefing

92AS0735A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 20 Feb 92 pp 1, 4

[Article: “Pakistan Calls for UN Fact-Finding Mission to Kashmir”]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 19: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Siddique Kanjoo in a letter to the United Nations Secretary-General has drawn his attention towards the grave situation in Held Kashmir which is caused by the continued denial of right of self-determination to the Kashmiris and brutalities being committed by the Indian authorities on them.

This was disclosed by a Foreign Office spokesman while briefing the newsmen here today.

He said the letter gave a detailed account of massive human rights violations and denial of fundamental freedom in Occupied Kashmir by the Indian forces. He called upon the Secretary-General to investigate the grave situation prevailing in Held Kashmir through the despatch of a fact-finding mission or through any other appropriate measure.

The letter said the Kashmir dispute was still on the agenda of the Security Council but, he regretted, the relevant resolutions remained unimplemented.

The spokesman said: "We have tried to engage India in a constructive and meaningful dialogue to get the Kashmir dispute solved as per the UN resolutions and in the spirit of the Simla Agreement, but unfortunately these efforts could not bear fruit due to India's intransigence.

The spokesman said Kanjoo's letter would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

To a question, the spokesman said Pakistan's position on Kashmir had always been that that issue should be resolved peacefully in accordance with the wishes of the Kashmiri people and in terms of the UN resolutions.

He said Pakistan's position was that the Kashmir problem was an international dispute as it remained on the agenda of the United Nations. "We do feel that it has been tacitly recognised by India itself when it took up the issue with the ambassadors of five permanent members of the Security Council, thus, enlarging the scope of the dispute from bilateral, as it has been advocating earlier, to international significance."

The international community, the spokesman stressed, should take serious note of the grave situation in Held Valley with a view to resolving it. "Pakistan has been raising this issue at various international fora in the past," he said, adding "Of course our efforts will continue in this direction in future as well."

To a question regarding the attempt of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) to cross the Line of Control, the spokesman said it mirrored the desperation of the Kashmiris who had been denied their right of self-determination by India in violation of its obligations under the UN resolutions.

But, he added, Pakistan had decided to stop them politely but firmly to avoid the loss of innocent lives at the hands of the Indian forces and escalation of tension between India and Pakistan.

"It also reflected our policy to solve the dispute peacefully," he added.

He dispelled the impression that there was two voices in the Pakistani establishment regarding solution of the Kashmir dispute. "The impression is baseless and is not well-founded," he categorically stated.

To yet another question about the reported shift in Kuwait's position on Kashmir, he said, "I am quite convinced that Kuwait's support to Pakistan on Kashmir issue remains unchanged."

Moreover, he said, Kuwait fully backed the adoption of a strong resolution on Kashmir at the Islamic Summit at Dakar in December last year. Apart from this, he added, the Amir of Kuwait as being the outgoing Chairman of the Islamic Summit Conference, he covered the Kashmir dispute in his report and had fully supported the solution of the problem in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

When asked about the outcome of the activities of Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Afghanistan Benon Sevan, he said he was going through a process of

consultations with various Afghan groups and parties for convening the Afghan assembly in accordance with the UN Secretary-General's five-point peace plan.

However, he said, "Mr. Sevan has not announced any concrete details about the dates and composition of the Afghan assembly as yet."

To another question, he said, "We are trying to encourage various Afghan groups and parties to attend the Afghan assembly."

He said, "Najibullah is certainly a personality who have been rejected by all segments of Afghan and so he will not be engaged in any intra-Afghan dialogue or Afghan interim government.—APP

Genocide Alleged

92AS0735B Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 21 Feb 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Fact-Finding Mission for Kashmir"]

[Text] The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, has written a letter to the United Nations Secretary-General drawing his attention towards the grave situation prevailing in Indian occupied Kashmir. He has given a detailed account of massive human rights violations and denial of fundamental freedoms by the Indian forces in occupied Kashmir. Reminding the UN Secretary-General that the Kashmir problem is an international dispute and still on the agenda of the United Nations, Mr. Kanjoo has appealed to him on behalf of the Government of Pakistan to investigate the conditions prevailing in the Valley of Kashmir through the despatch of a fact-finding mission or through any other appropriate measure.

It is unfortunate that the international community has so far failed to take a serious note of the conditions prevailing in occupied Kashmir and has hardly taken any step to have the problem resolved. Pakistan has been raising this issue at various international fora in the past and would continue to do so, but the response from the so-called upholders of human rights and supporters of justice to people under subjugation has been negligible. As things stand, those in the stranglehold of India in the territories forcibly occupied by it in Kashmir continue to suffer and face unprecedented atrocities perpetrated upon them by the 400,000 strong occupation troops stationed there for the purpose of quelling the uprising of the disillusioned people who seek nothing but the right to determine their future.

What is happening today in the territories of Kashmir controlled by India is only comparable to what Halaku and Changez Khan did to the people whom they overran. Even the genocide indulged in by Hitler pales into insignificance in the face of the gruesome stories pouring in from the valley. It is strange that the India Prime Minister has the audacity to say that there are no violations of human rights in occupied Kashmir nor are any atrocities being perpetrated on the unfortunate and unarmed people living there whereas the grim reality is that a reign of terror has been unleashed in the territory as borne out by independent observers. If India is all that innocent about its doings in

Kashmir why does it not allow the Amnesty International and other human rights organisations to visit the areas of Kashmir under its control? It has even gone to banish the journalists from these areas and refused entry to those who wish to see the prevailing conditions for themselves.

It was in early 1949 that both Pakistan and India accepted a resolution presented by the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) guaranteeing the right of self-determination to the people of Kashmir. Concrete terms of a settlement of the dispute were worked out in the resolution in close and continuous consultations between the two sides. As both governments formally signified their acceptance of the Commission's proposals, it constituted an international agreement, as binding as a treaty. It was India which later started creating hurdles in the implementation of the programme chalked out by the UNCIP for the withdrawal of Indian and Pakistani forces from the State. All efforts to secure India's agreement to a stage-to-stage demilitarisation to pave the way for a plebiscite failed because of its intransigence. The result is that the people of occupied Kashmir are still groaning under the stranglehold of India.

Disgusted with the state of affairs in their territory and smarting under the injustices meted out to them, the people of Kashmir rose in revolt two years back and expressed in no uncertain terms their opposition to the unjustified Indian hold over them. They have launched a valiant struggle to get rid of the Indian yoke. They can no longer tolerate the brutal ways in which they are being treated. They cannot accept the ransacking of their houses on the pretext of search for freedom-fighters and large scale burning of their houses. Gang-rapes are the order of the day in the held territories. It is now for the world body, the United Nations, to rise to the occasion, take cognizance of the brutal treatment meted out to the innocent people of Kashmir by India and fulfil its commitment to ensure the right of self-determination to the unfortunate people of a land which was once called a Paradise on Earth. To start with it should despatch a high level fact finding mission to Kashmir to investigate cases of brutal killings, torture and mass arrests that have become the order of the day there.

Two Nuclear Agreements Signed With China

92AS0756C Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 23 Feb 92 p 1

[News Report: "Two Nuclear Agreements Signed Between China and Pakistan"]

[Text] Islamabad (APP)—Two pacts were signed between the Pakistan Nuclear Energy Commission and China's National Atomic Corporation in connection with a 300-megawatt nuclear power plant. Pakistan has bought a power plant from China and will install it in Chashma, in Mianwali. This pact between China and Pakistan was agreed to on 31 December 1991. It was signed by Jing Sun Syang, president of the Chinese National Nuclear Corporation, and Dr. Ishfaq Ahmed, chairman of Pakistan's Atomic Energy

Commission. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed pleasure at this pact and assured that the project would be finished on time. Before this, the Chinese delegation met with the prime minister.

French Defense Panel Delegation Visits Islamabad

Meeting With Zaki

92AS0740A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 18 Feb 92 p 12

[Article: "Pakistan, France Share Common Perception on Issues—Zaki"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 27: The visiting 8-member delegation of the Standing Committee on Defence and Armed Forces of the French National Assembly called on the Secretary-General, Foreign Affairs, Mr. M. Akram Zaki at the Foreign Office here today. The Defence Minister, Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, also attended the two-hour briefing to the delegation by the Secretary-General.

Reviewing the evolution of the Pak-French relations, the Secretary-General observed that Pakistan and France shared common perception on major global and regional issues. He said that the international system envisaged by the United Nations had been paralysed during the Cold War. But with the transition from a bipolar to a predominantly multicentral system, the interstate relations should be governed by the original principles of the UN Charter. In this regard the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, including France, could play a positive role in determining the international political and strategic milieu.

Mr. Akram Zaki said that Pakistan and France had traditionally enjoyed very close and cordial relations. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's recent visit to France marked a milestone in further consolidating Pak-French ties and had opened up new avenues for mutually beneficial cooperation in political, socio-economic, technological and defence fields.

The Secretary-General briefed the French Parliamentarians on Pakistan Government's policies on Kashmir, Afghanistan and nuclear non-proliferation, Pakistan's relations with the newly independent Muslim Central Asian States and the reforms introduced by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's Government for social and economic development.

He said that the priorities of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's Government stemmed from three principles, namely; consolidation of democratic traditions and institutions; extensive socio-economic reforms and pursuit of foreign policy aimed at regional and international peace and security.

He said that French government's support for a final solution of the Afghan problem, within the UN framework, was a positive factor. He expressed appreciation for the French government's forthright support for the right of self-determination for the people of Kashmir reiterated during the Prime Minister's visit to France.

Mr. Zaki also expressed appreciation for the French government's support to Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz

Sharif's proposal of June 6 for nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia. He pointed out that the French plan of June 3 and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's proposals of June 6 for non-proliferation at global and regional levels were similar and mutually supportive.

The leader of the French Parliamentary delegation, Mr. Jean Michel Boucheron, agreed with the Secretary-General that in the new emerging International scenario there was an urgent need and total justification for closer cooperation between Pakistan and France.

Later, Foreign Secretary, Mr. Shaharyar M. Khan, hosted a luncheon in honour of the visiting delegation, says a handout.

Talks With Defense Production Minister

92AS0740B Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 19 Feb 92 p 4

[Article: "Pak, France Agree To Enhance Defence Cooperation"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 18: The French delegation of National Assembly's Standing Committee for National Defence and Armed Forces, led by Mr. Jean Michel Boucheron, called on the Federal Minister for Defence Production, Mir Hazar Khan Bijaran, here today, says a handout.

The minister briefed the delegation on government's perception of the military imbalance in the region which supports the conclusion that Pakistan was only seeking a credible self-defence capability. Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani further added that the visit of French delegation could play a positive role in the French Parliament as regards the financial aspects of Pakistan-France military collaboration, which may otherwise be a limiting factor.

The minister expressed satisfaction over the performance of military hardware as supplied by France. Both the sides agreed to further enhance the co-operation between the two countries specially in the field of defence. They emphasised on the provision of transfer of technology in the current on-going contracts like Mines Hunters.

Mr. Jean Michel Boucheron said that Government of France confirmed its support for the Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif's proposal of nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia. He further said that France had always been a strong supporter of Pakistan in pursuing Afghan policy. Both the countries have candidly supported the right of self-determination for the people of Kashmir, he further added.

The minister said that the Pakistan Government had high hopes in French assistance in the field of defence. He also said that there should be more frequent exchange of visits of specialists and engineers between the two countries.

Among others the French Ambassador was also present in the meeting.

Management Training Agreements Made With CIS

92AS0754A Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 23 Feb 92
p 11

[News Report: "Central Asia Management Program"]

[Text] Ahsan Iqbal, chairman of the Institute of Management and Policy, has signed management training agreements with Central Asian countries with the aim of helping these countries deal with management crises. Under these agreements, management courses will be set up in Pakistan to train Central Asian officials and technical help will be given to the Central Asian countries to establish higher institutions in management. Exchanges of scholars and experts will take place and joint trade and research programs and seminars will be arranged.

In order to conduct these activities in a relevant manner, the Institute of Management and Budget has initiated a Central Asia Management Program under the supervision of the institute's chairman, Ahsan Iqbal. Prominent industrialists, businessmen, and experts have been included in the program and prominent international trade companies will also participate.

Under the Central Asia Management Program, a training center will be established in Lahore that will provide accommodations and board as well to those taking part in the training courses. The building for the center will be constructed with the participation of the government of Pakistan and international organizations; the center will be furnished with modern facilities and the latest audiovisual equipment. By providing training and facilities to the officials and managers of Central Asian countries, the people of Pakistan will have the opportunity to establish contacts with the most important population segments of these countries and this contact will be of tremendous help in promoting concrete and permanent relations between Pakistan and Central Asian countries. A 16-member delegation from Azerbaijan is expected to arrive in Pakistan shortly to participate in the training course.

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

India Urged To Take Initiative for Immediate Summit

92AS0708E Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92
p 10

[Editorial: "Voice Beautiful"]

[Text] Forty five years after the partition of the country, it is high time for both India and Pakistan to refuse to be prisoners of the Mountbatten Award mindset. In these 45 years, cataclysmic changes have overwhelmed the world. Cold War confrontation began and ended in this very period—a confrontation of eyeball-to-eyeball ferocity, with the two sides amassing weapons that could have annihilated humankind. And yet that confrontation was switched off. Dismembered Germany, defeated and humiliated, has achieved not only its long-cherished unity but has become one of the great powers of today, an economic superpower.

Europe itself has been transformed. Gone are the traditional animosities between France and Germany—instead there has emerged a unified European Community, a sort of super-state, unique in history. China, long condemned to play its destined role in the world stage, Japan, vanquished, having to bear the scar of the world's first atom bomb barbarity, has today become a mighty hi-tech giant. Africa is bestirred by the urge of freedom, with its southern tip witnessing the sunset of apartheid—it is a fascinating panorama of four decades-and-a-half, a span of time never so packed with great events in history.

It is against this historic background that we have to look at Indo-Pak relations; and as inheritors of a great civilisation, we have to be severely self-introspective.

The leaders of both countries must rise above this tension-charged atmosphere and boldly hold a immediate summit talk between the two prime ministers and set the process of not only defusing the present crisis but carry it forward for building a structure of durable peace for the entire South Asia. The establishment of such a durable peace on the foundations of mutual goodwill and understanding is the best guarantee for maintaining the integrity and sovereignty of both the countries. In this noble venture, it is for India as the bigger of the two neighbours to take prompt initiative.

Will Prime Minister Narasimha Rao take that momentous first step?

Commentary Says Country Should Cooperate With India

92AS0708C Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92 p 7

[Text] With firm determination that may or may not bring the expected long-term dividends, the Narasimha Rao Government arranged for the East Punjab polls to be held on schedule, bringing President's rule to an end after five painfully long years.

Despite increased terrorist activities and the threat of greater violence, the ultimate boycott of the elections by the four main Akali Dal factions and two Sikh student associations, as well as an effective anti-poll hartal, the elections were held and, because of the large-scale deployment of security forces, the polling was more peaceful than it was in many other states during the general election. The voter turn-out was certainly not heavy, but the percentage of votes cast was better than most observers had anticipated, ranging in different constituencies between 20 and nearly 50 percent, with the overall average estimated at near 25 percent. The differences were prominent between the rural and urban constituencies, and between the predominantly Sikh areas and those with a mixed population, the latter in each case showed more voters at the booths.

Fair Assessment

Although the Congress Party leaders seem satisfied with the results, in any fair assessment the limitations of the electoral exercise must be accepted. Apart from the Congress, the Leftist parties and BS [Beant Singh] and BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], only one Akali faction, named after Kabul

Singh, entered the fray. Clearly, leaders of the majority Sikh groups remained afraid of the militant bullets or dissatisfied with the conditions under which the ballot had been called. Each Akali faction leader seems to have had different reasons for the boycott, with one faction demanding UN observers and others showing interest in a package deal being announced before polling day. Many observers believe that announcement of concessions in terms of the Rajiv-Longowal Accord would have helped to make the election more representative, but apart from the adverse Haryana factor, the package for the Punjab has probably been kept in reserve, so that when a new government is formed it will be able to offer something tangible to the people and, thus, improve the chances of its acceptability—and survival.

In the circumstances, the election results are not unexpected. Among the Sikh parties, only the Kabul Singh wing of the Akalis possessed the doggedness—for which the leader whose name it was trying to keep alive was well known—to join the contest, but it lacked mass appeal and failed to impress the Sikh voters. Among the remaining contestants, the ruling Congress won a 3/4ths majority in the state assembly and bagged most of the Lok Sabha seats, which may give it a clear majority in the House. The Sikh militants and the Akali Dal have inevitably declared that the election was a farce. The BJP, unable to raise any chauvinistic slogans, has suffered a setback and has alleged rigging, but all other non-Akali parties have accepted the results.

The state's future will depend on how well the new Congress Government is able to function. An effort should be made to set up a government that has as broad a base as possible—faction-wise and party-wise—and this means inviting the other secular parties to participate—or cooperate even if their electoral gains have been small. It is important that the Beant Singh government must be capable of giving ideological battle to the secessionist terrorists, establish greater security, and bring in reforms and concessions that will satisfy the people and give assurances of fair treatment to the Punjab in such matters as transfer of Chandigarh and, as important, a fair division of river and canal waters. Although just now there is no great ground for optimism, one would like to hope that the new Punjab administration will make a beginning towards peace and stability.

Let it be understood that if it can do so, it will help to bring an improvement in Indo-Pakistan relations. Therefore, wherever it can, Pakistan should cooperate with India in encouraging this process by ensuring that its territory is not used by Sikh terrorists or their helpers, so that the two governments can attend to the major issues that stand in the way of normalcy.

Afghans Seen Selling Deadly Weapons Openly

92AS0659D Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 8 Feb 92 p 11

[Editorial: "The Weapons of the Afghan Mujaheddin"]

[Text] According to the respected British newspaper GUARDIAN, the Afghan mujahidin are selling deadly weapons at cheap prices in Pakistan. These weapons include

Stinger missiles, which are very popular with terrorists in Pakistan. The reason for the sale of weapons is reported to be because Afghan commanders are no longer paying salaries to the mujahidin forcing the latter to sell weapons. This poses a worrisome problem for Pakistan; the law-and-order situation will get worse and the existence of modern weapons of destruction in the hands of terrorists and saboteurs may increase subversive activity in the country. Weapons became plentiful in Pakistan when jihad against Russia started in Afghanistan. At that time, the United States supplied arms to the mujahidin, which was a necessary step. These weapons enabled the Afghans to humble a superpower such as Russia and drive it out of Afghanistan. But since that time, arms smuggling has increased in Pakistan as was feared. Gradually, there was such an increase of weapons in Pakistan that a Kalashnikov culture appeared and law and order started to deteriorate. Weapons are largely to blame for the serious situation in Sindh. According to the GUARDIAN, the genie is out of the bottle now and not even the United States can put it back in. But this genie is no problem for the United States; it is the enemy of Pakistan's law and order and the destruction of this demon is the most important priority of the moment. Foreign investors are showing great interest in Pakistan and deterioration in law and order will put an end to foreign investment and harm the country.

Afghans had started emigrating to Pakistan from the time of the Afghan jihad and Pakistan had welcomed them and, in a gesture of brotherhood, built camp communities for them. There are approximately 3,500,000 refugees in Pakistan whose needs have been provided for; other countries have also helped but now they have withdrawn their aid and Pakistan has to bear the full burden of this hospitality. Pakistan's economy is already heavily burdened; nevertheless, Pakistanis are shouldering this additional load. But guests also should observe certain courtesies and they should not create social and law-and-order problems for Pakistan.

The answer to this problem is to find a political solution to the Afghan issue. The United Nations has offered a peace formula that has been accepted by Pakistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United States and a number of Afghan organizations; but certain Afghan leaders oppose it. When the Afghan jihad started, these Afghan leaders urged the United Nations not to stand on the sidelines but to play an effective role. Now that the United Nations is trying to find a political solution to the problem, certain Afghan leaders are opposing it. Undoubtedly, the Islamic identity of Afghanistan should be restored and Pakistan supports this fully. The U.N. proposal in no way prevents the restoration of Afghanistan's Islamic Identity. The sooner the Afghan problem is solved, the better it will be. The first benefit of an early solution will be the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes and to a life of peace and tranquillity. Second, the burden of hospitality will be lifted from Pakistan's economy and an additional benefit will be that, after the restoration of peace in Afghanistan, Pakistan will be able to establish friendly relations with the Muslim states of Central Asia; connecting highway and railroad lines will be built that will promote commerce. The Central Asian states, in turn, will

gain access to the port of Karachi, which will enable them to sell their goods to foreign countries.

Link With Central Asia Planned Through Iran

92AS0755C Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 18 Feb 92 P 8

[News Report: "Pakistan's Trade With the Countries of Central Asia Will Be Through Iran; Both Countries Agreed on a Plan for a Transport System and Railway Lines To Europe"]

[Text] Tehran, (PPA) Iran has given Pakistan permission to use its territory for access to Central Asia. According to very reliable sources, Ali Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Iran's president, and Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan's prime minister, recently met for an hour and a half in Tehran and decided that as long as peace was not established in Afghanistan, Pakistan would conduct its trade with the Central Asian countries through Iran and, to this end, the transport systems in Iran and Pakistan would be improved and a network of highways would be built extending to Azarbaijan. Both Iran and Pakistan agreed that after the Central Asian republics obtained membership in the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization], special economic relations would be established with these countries. An agreement was reached to construct railway lines extending beyond the boundaries of Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey reaching to Europe. Reportedly, railway lines extending beyond Turkey are being considered necessary in order to gain access to central Europe where countries newly independent of the former Soviet Union need economic help; a wide field exists in that area for economic cooperation as well. The proposals, which were made in the recent ministerial meeting for economic and communications improvements, should be put into effect speedily. According to the sources, Iran and Pakistan are prepared to soon start a large-scale effort to initiate economic progress in the Central Asian countries.

Civil Aviation Pact Signed With Uzbekistan

92AS0660A Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 17 Feb 92 pp 3,6

[News Report: "Civil Aviation Pact Signed With Uzbekistan; First Flight in March End; Fare To Be 5,700 Rupees"]

[Text] Karachi (PPI)—Pakistan and Uzbekistan signed a civil aviation agreement last Sunday. The agreement was signed by Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) Mohammed Yunus, director general of the Civil Aviation Authority, on behalf of Pakistan, and Ghani Rafiq (?), director of Uzbekistan's civil aviation department. While talking to newsmen, Air Vice Marshal Mohammed Yunus said, "The purpose of this agreement is to open the doors of travel between the two independent countries." He said that "during this era, better, friendlier relations can be established between two countries by such cooperation pacts." Mr. Yunus added that an air connection between the two countries would be established after this agreement. In addition, he said that in the beginning PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] will fly once a week from Islamabad to Tashkent. There will be a weekly flight from Tashkent to Karachi also. The first flight

is scheduled to leave during the second week of March. He said the fare for this route will be 5,700 rupees. Mr. Javed Husan Ali, joint secretary of civil aviation, told newsmen while answering a question that after diplomatic relations were established between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, there would be no difficulty in getting a visa. He said the government of Pakistan has offered all kinds of help to Uzbekistan, in addition to its help in the area of aviation, and that people from Uzbekistan would receive higher technological training in Hyderabad. While answering another question, Mr. Ali said that Uzbekistan would like to contract airplanes to PIA.

Report on Uzbekistan's Offer of Airplanes

92AS0752B Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 19 Feb 92 p 3

[News Report: "Uzbekistan Offered Airplanes to Pakistan"]

[Text] Karachi (Special Correspondent)—Mr. Ghani Rafiq, director general of Uzbekistan's civil aviation, has offered to supply airplanes to PIA [Pakistani Air Lines], Agha Khan Airlines, and Shahn Air. He was addressing a conference in Karachi on Monday evening. Ghani Rafiq said that Uzbekistan Airways has several spare modern jet airplanes. He said that if the PIA wants, he will supply these airplanes at a 30-percent discount for flights to Haj. While discussing the civil aviation agreement between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, he said that PIA will benefit mostly from this agreement, and the distance between Karachi and Europe. He said that PIA will save fuel and time by using the Tashkent route. He also said that he was very eager for technical cooperation with PIA and civil aviation. Mr. Yaqub Tabani, managing director of the Tabani Group, said that new opportunities are being found as a result of the civil aviation pact, and that trade will be increased between the two countries.

Paper Reports on Visit of Kazakhstan President

Talks With Sharif

92AS0745A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 24 Feb 92 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Afghans Must Elect Their Own Government"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 23: President Nursultan A. Nazarbayev and Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif today agreed to build and expand a mutually fruitful relationship between Kazakhstan and Pakistan based on sound economic cooperation and strong trade linkages.

The desire to establish such a relationship between the two countries was expressed by the two leaders during nearly three hours of talks held at the Prime Minister's Secretariat here this afternoon.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif who received the Kazakhstan President at the steps of the Prime Minister's Secretariat as he alighted from his limousine, escorted the distinguished visitor to his prime ministerial office where the two leaders

held an hour-long discussion without aides. They later moved to the conference room where formal talks were held between the two delegations.

Welcoming President Nazarbayev, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed the confidence that with its strategic location and its rich resources, Kazakhstan would play a vital role in promoting peace in the entire region. "Pakistan desires close and cordial relations with Kazakhstan consistent with our shared history and culture," the Prime Minister said and added that his country was particularly looking forward to cooperation in the [text illegible] science and technology and cultural fields.

Laying special emphasis on development of trade linkages with Kazakhstan and other Central Asian countries, Mr. Nawaz Sharif emphasised that these could "help develop the entire region into a vibrant economic community."

Reciprocating the sentiments expressed by the Pakistani Prime Minister, President Nursultan Nazarbayev said he was looking forward to the time when Pakistan and Kazakhstan would enjoy a truly dynamic and close relationship. "The very close links that had existed between the two peoples were unfortunately broken during a period of totalitarianism," President Nursultan Nazarbayev observed but expressed the hope that an early revival would take place through development of trade and commerce.

He, however, thought that the development of trade and commerce between the two countries would suffer in the absence of a quick settlement of the Afghanistan problem. An early resolution of the Afghan problem in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the Afghans was, therefore, also in the interest of peace and progress of the region, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev observed.

Expressing unanimity of views with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on the issue of Afghanistan, President Nursultan Nazarbayev supported the United Nations Secretary General's proposal of May, 1991 and disclosed that he had conveyed his views to the Vice-President of the Najibullah regime during the latter's recent visit to Kazakhstan. "The people of Afghanistan must elect their own representatives," he declared.

Appreciating Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's proposal for promotion of nuclear non-proliferation in the South Asian region, the Kazakhstan President declared that his country's nuclear status notwithstanding, Kazakhstan was ready to enter into negotiations to prevent nuclear proliferation in the region. "We are ready to cooperate with you in any manner in this regard," he said and cited his decision to close two testing sites in Kazakhstan as an example of his country's desire to arrest nuclear proliferation.

Responding to the Prime Minister's reference to the sufferings of the people of Kashmir, President Nursultan Nazarbayev expressed satisfaction over the fact that Pakistan was making every effort to resolve the long outstanding issue, peacefully "such conflicts can only be resolved through a will and a desire to do so from both sides," he added. Mr. Nawaz Sharif had earlier briefed the visiting

President on the struggle for self-determination by the people of Kashmir and the atrocities being committed by the Indian occupation forces.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev expressed keen interest in the economic reforms and the process of privatisation initiated in Pakistan. "We would like to exchange experience and information," he said, and expressed particular interest in cooperation in the fields of transport and telecommunication.

The two countries would be signing five separate agreements tomorrow morning following which further discussions will be held at the ministerial and official levels between the two delegations to expand on the proposals for further cooperation generated by the two leaders during their one-on-one meeting held earlier this afternoon.

Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif was assisted among others by Mr. Sartaj Aziz, Minister for Finance and Malik Mohammad Naeem.

Nazarbayev was assisted by Mr. Daulat Hamitovich Sembiev, First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Tulevtai, S. Suleimanov, Foreign Minister, Mr. Sizdik D. Abishev, Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, Mr. Berlin Irishev, President of Kazakhstan Foreign Economic Commission.—APP.

Banquet Speeches Reported

92AS0745B Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 24 Feb 92 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Kazakhstan Backs Pakistan on N-Stand; World Must Force India To Resolve Kashmir Issue"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 23: President Ghulam Ishaq Khan Sunday said the time has come for the international community to urge India to initiate a meaningful dialogue with Pakistan to resolve the issue peacefully and exert pressure on it to desist from the brutal use of force in Kashmir.

Speaking at the state banquet hosted in honour of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan and his delegation at Aiwan-i-Sadr tonight the President said the world must bring pressure to bear upon India to honour its commitments under the Security Council resolutions.

The recently reawakened conscience of the world must not be allowed to go into slumber over the question of South Asia's festering wound, he said.

The President said Indian-occupied Kashmir has been in turmoil for over two years as the Kashmiri people are engaged in a valiant struggle to decide their own destiny in the face of massive use of indiscriminate force by India to suppress their spontaneous and indigenous uprising.

He regretted that the new wind of conciliation and accommodation blowing across most parts of the globe has not pervaded the South Asian region as yet. Just and honourable solutions are yet to be found to outstanding disputes and differences, especially the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute which constitutes the single biggest irritant in relations between India and Pakistan.

Ghulam Ishaq Khan said it was primarily due to the lack of resolution of this issue that our dream of peace and amity in South Asia continues to elude us and the regions political and security environment remains far from reassuring.

The uprising in Indian-occupied Kashmir, he said, stems from India's constant denial to the people of the territory, for over four decades, of their inalienable right of self determination—a right solemnly pledged to them by India, Pakistan and the international community in resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly.

For peace and progress in this zone, he said, it was essential that a peaceful resolution of the Afghanistan problem be found in the immediate future. The settlement of the Afghanistan issue was an essential prerequisite for the invitation of effective cooperation with Central Asia as it provides gateway between our two regions.

He said Pakistan has consistently supported all efforts aimed at the early conclusion of a political settlement in Afghanistan with a view to restoring peace to that unfortunate land.

In order, to assist in promoting a settlement, Pakistan has extended its full support to the efforts of the UN Secretary General for convening an Afghan assembly to decide on an interim government, acceptable to the Afghan people, he said adding that we shall facilitate the convening of such a representative assembly and respect its outcome.

Ghulam Ishaq Khan said the establishment of enduring cooperation between Kazakhstan and Pakistan would contribute not only to the progress and well being of our two peoples with our vision of a dynamic and prosperous economic community comprising the states of Central Asia and the South West Asian region.

In this great endeavour he said we regard you both as an indispensable partner and a significant participant in the process that would impart to our region the requisite dimensions of a natural geological and thriving economic and cultural zone.

"I have no doubt that building upon the community of our convictions and interests, our two nations would initiate the process of identifying and strengthening the avenues of cooperation, weaving a network of rail, road, and air links, expanding and enlarging trade and commerce and utilizing fully the latent potential for mutually beneficial cooperation" he said.

He said the five agreements, that would be signed during Kazakhstan President's stay here should be rightly regarded as ushering in new era of bilateral collaboration. The agreement to set up a joint ministerial commission, in particular, would provide the most needed institutionalised framework for mutually beneficial cooperation in the political, economic, commercial, scientific, and cultural fields.

President of Kazakhstan, Mr. Nursultan A. Nazarbayev, said Sunday evening his country wanted all unresolved questions among countries of "our region to be resolved through means of peaceful negotiations."

Speaking at the banquet hosted in his honour by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan at Aiwan-i-Sadr here he said his country being a member of international community is ready to cooperate in resolving the Afghanistan problem by involving all interested sides.

He said "I am absolutely sure this problem has to be resolved only by peaceful means based on the will of the people of that country and by supporting the initiative of the UN secretary general.

The Kazakhstan president said his country fully approves the initiative of Pakistan for creating a nuclear free regime in South Asia.

He said Kazakhstan as a state in which nuclear weapons are deployed is ready to join treaty on nuclear non-proliferation.

Referring to economic reforms being carried out by Nawaz Sharif government in Pakistan he said these are of great significance for Kazakhstan. He said Pakistan and Kazakhstan are close neighbours but old cultural and historical relations were cut between them due to dictatorial rule of the former USSR. Kazakhstan he said, was not to blame for this.

He said both countries have great prospects of establishing economic and commercial relations. He said his country is ready to continue cooperation in the fields of textile industry, agriculture, processing industry, petro-industry and contacts in banking and business.

He said his country is also ready for cooperation in telecommunication field. "We are prepared for bigger agreements," he added.

He said the agreements to be signed between Pakistan and Kazakhstan covering various fields during his visit will open a new page in the history of our relations.

He said it was time for a new look at our ties and great scope existed strengthening cooperation in political, trade and economic fields.

He recalled that cooperation already existed between a science academy of Kazakhstan and Quaid-i-Azam University.

He said his country is doing its best for strengthening Commonwealth of Independent States. He said preservation of all continuing ties between former Russian republics is very important.

The banquet was attended by Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, federal ministers, diplomats and high ranking civil and military officials.—APP.

Civic Reception

92AS0745C Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 26 Feb 92 p 1

[Article: "Civic Reception for Nazarbayev at Shalimar Garden; Kazakhstan To Work for Promotion of Islamic Ties in Asia"]

[Excerpt] Lahore, Feb. 25: The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Nursultan A. Nazarbayev said here

Tuesday that it was our policy in the Asian region to promote Islamic cooperation, peace and stability and our final goal was solution of the national conflicts in all the hot and bed of the Asian continent.

He said "we want to that resolve problems concerning the development of science, utilisation of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Speaking at a civic reception arranged in his honour by the MCL [Parliament in Pakistan] at Shalimar Garden's the distinguished guest said "Our republic is a peace-loving country. It refers to the internal as well as to the external policy, that is of special importance, if we take into consideration the fact that in our Republic there lives more than 100 nationalities. He said." Peace and stability, are the main achievements of Pakistan and we want to consolidate the same. Kazakhstan has never been a threat to and will never be a threat to any country in future.

He said "we stand for developing friendly relations with all the states regardless of their social and economic structure, ideology and religious belief. The foundation of our relations with other countries would be build up on mutual respect and right and freedom of co-existence of the people and states. He said "Kazakhstan enjoyed a very important geo-political position being a kind of bridge between Asia and Europe and was striving to do everything possible for bringing the people of the continent close and we do all necessary to accomplish this task. He said Kazakhstan stands also for strengthening the Commonwealth of Independent states and we will try to do everything possible to preserve the economic ties and spiritual values, strategic goals on all the territories in the former Soviet Union. He said he is a realistic person and if we have formed a new Commonwealth we should do everything necessary for the progress of Commonwealth of Independent States.

He said "as far as our policy in the Asian region is concerned we intend to promote Islamic cooperation, peace and stability and to find solution of all conflicts in all the hot beds of the Asian continent, like the solution of other global problems. He said "we are establishing the new economic order, integration of the economy and making efforts to resolve problems of development of science, utilisation and atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

He added that at the civic reception in the world famous Shalimar Garden he wanted to confirm once again the adherence of the people of Kazakhstan and Pakistan to the development of our relations on the basis of friendship and collaboration in the name of peace and stability. He said that visit of Kazakhstan delegation started from and is ending in Lahore—the capital of Punjab Province. The City which has thousands years history and situated in the centre of the ancient oriental civilisation. The name of the outstanding Pakistani poet and philosopher Mohammad Iqbalis very close to our hearts who lived in Lahore.

Mr. Nursultan made a particular mention of historic Badshahi Masjid built by the Mughals. Similarly, he said Prime Minister Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif who accompanied him was also from Lahore.

Concluding his speech he prayed "long live friendship of Pakistan and Kazakhstan."

Earlier, the President, Nursultan Nazarbayev of Republic of Kazakhstan was given a warm and hearty welcome by the citizens of Lahore at Shalimar Gardens today evening.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev was accompanied by Prime Minister, Punjab Mr. Ghulam Haider Wyne, Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar, Speaker, Punjab Assembly Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo, Provincial Ministers, MNAs [Members of National Assembly], MPAs [Members of Provincial Assembly], elite of the town, senior government officials and a large number of citizens of Lahore attended the reception. [passage omitted]

Report on Agreements

92AS0745D Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 23 Feb 92 p 1

[Article: "5 Pak-Kazakhstan Accords To Be Signed"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 22: Five agreements are expected to be signed between Pakistan and Kazakhstan covering cooperation in various fields during the February 22-25 visit of Mr. Nursultan A. Nazarbayev to Islamabad.

A Foreign Office spokesman briefing newsmen Saturday on the visit of the Kazakhstan President to Pakistan said "we are optimistic in long-term prospects of cooperation in economics and commerce."

The texts of agreements were formalised during the recent visit to Kazakhstan by Federal Minister of Science and Technology Illahi Bakhsh Soomro. The agreements were:

- Declaration on principles governing relations between Pakistan and Kazakhstan:
- Agreement on trade and economic cooperation,
- Protocol for establishing joint commission which will focus on promoting economic, commercial and cultural ties,
- Agreement on scientific and technical cooperation and agreement on cooperation in culture, sports and tourism.

He said Karachi is the nearest port for Kazakhstan for trade access to Gulf and the rest of the world.

He said Pakistan is quite hopeful that the visit and signing of the bilateral agreements will provide impetus to bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

He said that government has made all possible efforts and taken a number of steps to revive our cultural and historical links with all Central Asian Republics including Kazakhstan which have now emerged as independent state.

He said a number of steps have been taken to develop our cultural, economic and political relations.

Kazakhstan, he said enjoys special importance among the Central Asian States by virtue of its large population estimated to be about 17 million. It is well endowed with mineral resources like coal, natural gas, well developed industry based on coal, etc.

He said there existed a great deal of scope for economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries.

He said we are confident the visit will play an extremely valuable role in strengthening cooperation in economic and commercial fields between the two countries.

The Foreign Office spokesman recalled the visit in November-December of a delegation headed by Minister of State Sardar Aseff Ahmad Alaia to Central Asian states including Kazakhstan. During this visit he signed a memorandum of understanding with Kazakhstan on developing mutual cooperation.

Pakistan, he said was also amongst the first countries to recognise Kazakhstan with other Central Asian states. After Turkey, Pakistan was second to do so, he added.

He said Pakistan government has also sent an aircraft with relief supplies in the form of medicines to demonstrate our goodwill and solidarity with the people of Kazakhstan.

The spokesman in response to a question said in his opinion it will be open to both sides to raise any political issue during the discussions scheduled to take place between Kazakhstan President and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif tomorrow. He was asked if the Afghanistan issue will figure in the talks.

Replying to another question, he said in the context of economic and commercial cooperation, no subject is excluded in the talks. Starting of air-link to Alma Ata may also be discussed.

When asked about reasons of the curtailing of Kazakhstan President's visit to New Delhi, he said. "I am not aware of any particular reasons."

He said there was some rescheduling of the visit to which we have no difficulty. Accordingly, the visit has been rescheduled. His official visit starts from tomorrow but he is arriving in Lahore this evening.

He said Pakistan has set up its embassy in Alma Ata which will start functioning shortly.—APP.

Sharif on Agreements

92AS0745E Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 26 Feb 92 p 1

[Article: "Pak-Kazakhstan Accords for Far-Reaching Economic Results"]

[Text] Lahore, Feb. 25: Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif today said that Pakistan and Kazakhstan would reap far-reaching results in economic and other fields through agreements signed between them in Islamabad.

Talking to newsmen at the Lahore Airport after seeing off the Pakistan President, the Prime Minister said that these would be a very small number of states with which Pakistan

had signed so many agreements for cooperation in different fields and Kazakhstan was one of them.

The Prime Minister said the visit of President Nazarbayev to Pakistan would prove a milestone in strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

He said that the Central Asian Republics had recently achieved sovereign status after the break up of the USSR and added that Pakistan could do a lot to help them to stand on their own feet.

He said that the President of Uzbekistan would visit Pakistan next month, whereas, the leaders of other Central Asian Republics would also come to Pakistan at their convenience.

He said that these states had pinned great hopes on Pakistan and the Pakistan government would never lag behind to come up to their expectations.

The Prime Minister said that Pakistan and Kazakhstan and other Central Asian Republics were tied in cultural [text illegible].

Kazakhstan [words illegible] and great potential in various fields and both the countries would benefit from each other with expansion of bilateral trade relations.—APP.

Nine-Member Team Departs for Kazakhstan

92AS0755B Karachi JASARAT i Urdu 17 Feb 92 p 1

[News Report: "Nine Member Delegation Led by Sumro Leaves for Kazakhstan; Agreements of Cooperation Will Be Signed on Economic, Trade, Science, and Other Matters"]

[Text] Islamabad, (PPA): "We are going to Kazakhstan with the aim of widening cooperation; after the signing of the agreement of cooperation, a new era of economic and political cooperation will begin between the two countries." These statements were made to journalists today in Islamabad by Ilahi Baksh Sumru, federal minister of science and technology. He then left for Alma Ata with a nine-member delegation, which is on a four-day official tour. Sumru said that the current trip to Kazakhstan was in connection with preparations for the visit to Pakistan of Nur Sultan Nazarbayev, the president of Kazakhstan. Sumru said that the delegation's visit was very important because it was carrying a plan and a draft for the creation of a joint ministerial commission, which would promote speedy extension of economic cooperation between the two countries. He added that the delegation was also carrying drafts for greater cooperation in the fields of economics, commerce, education, science, technology, culture, and tourism; that detailed talks would take place and agreements would be drawn up and would be signed during the visit to Pakistan of the president of Kazakhstan. Sumru expressed the hope that his visit would open the way to economic cooperation between the two countries.

First Shipment of Aid to Kazakhstan Reported

92AS0755A Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 17 Feb 92 p 12

[News Report: "The First Shipment of Aid to Kazakhstan Will Begin Today"]

[Text] Islamabad (APP): The first shipment of aid to the Muslim Central Asian state of Kazakhstan will be sent on Monday; and it will mark the beginning of the supply of aid by Pakistan to the six Muslim states of Central Asia. The six states also include Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, and Azerbaijan.

Tashkent-Islamabad Air Services Reported

92AS0752A Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 25 Feb 92 p 2

[News Report: "Trial Flight to Tashkent To Leave Today"]

[Text] Karachi (APP)—Before starting regular flight service between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, a PIA [Pakistani Air Lines] Boeing 737 will leave for Tashkent on Tuesday morning on a trial flight. PIA will start a regular flight between Islamabad and Tashkent in mid-March. The civil aviation departments of both countries have already signed an agreement. According to this agreement, Uzbekistan Airways will run a weekly flight between Tashkent and Karachi. The trial flight leaving Tuesday from Karachi will carry technical and other personnel. They will familiarize themselves with the route and discuss details with officials in Tashkent for regular services. It is expected that the president of Uzbekistan will visit Pakistan next month. At this time, Uzbekistan will establish either a mission in Karachi or an embassy in Islamabad. Arrangements to establish a Pakistani delegation in Tashkent have already been made.

Plans Under Way for Tajikistan To Supply Electricity

92AS0752D Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 23 Feb 92 p 3

[News Report: "Tajikistan To Supply Electricity"]

[Text] Islamabad (NAWA-I-WAQT Correspondent)—Pakistan has decided to import electricity to meet its needs. It has signed an agreement with Tajikistan to receive hydroelectricity. According to this agreement, transition lines for electricity will be laid from Tajikistan to Peshawar via Jalalabad. It was learned that the decision to import electricity from Tajikistan was made recently during the regional meeting of the Economic Cooperation Committee. In this context, Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz and Tajikistan's finance minister have agreed on principle to a supply of electricity from Tajikistan. Formal signatures on this agreement will take place in March. A high-level delegation will visit Tajikistan under the leadership of Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz. According to our technical experts, this electricity will be bought at reasonable rates. Pakistan will supply edibles in exchange for it.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Addresses District Advisers

92AS0733A Lahore *THE PAKISTAN TIMES*
in English 21 Feb 92 p 12

[Article: "Revolutionary Steps To Boost Economy"]

[Text] Lahore, Feb. 20: Prime Minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, said here Thursday that five of the Muslim Republics of Central Asia have joined the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) of Iran, Turkey and Pakistan and now its membership has been raised to eight.

Addressing the large convention of the members of the District Advisory Boards from all over the Punjab at Baghi-Jinnah, the Prime Minister said that Pakistan had historic, religious and cultural relations with the people of Central Asia and hoped that with the addition of five Republics of Central Asia, the existing relations would be further strengthened. He said that the President of Kazakhstan would soon visit Pakistan to discuss matters of mutual interest. "I may also pay a visit to Central Asian Republics to promote the existing relations," he added.

The Prime Minister said that his Government was introducing revolutionary changes in the industrial, economic and agriculture sectors to achieve self-reliance, to repay loans and to enable the country to stand on its own feet. He severely criticised the Opposition, particularly the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] for their negative role and said that the former PPP Government had brazenly indulged in corruption during its 20-month misrule and now the PPP leadership was accusing the present Government of corruption. He said the people knew full well its anti-national role and its large-scale corruption. The masses had, therefore, rejected the PPP in the 1990 general elections and expressed their full confidence in the leadership of the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad].

Mr. Nawaz Sharif added that the PPP leadership was in sheer frustration raising hue and cry and it could not cheat the masses once again by shifting the blame to the present IJI Government. He further said that the IJI components expressed complete solidarity with the Kashmiris on February 5 last, while the PPP/PDA remained silent but were now criticising the present Government's stand on Kashmir issue.

The Prime Minister said that he had announced in his first address to the nation on TV and radio that the Government would endeavour to provide justice to the needy and to solve the problems faced by the masses. The Punjab Government, headed by Mr. Ghulam Haider Wyne, had made a great achievement by constituting six Advisory Boards in each district of the Punjab to solve people's problems, and hoped that these Boards would go a long way in ending corruption, bribery, highhandedness and malpractices to the Police, administration, education and other Departments in case they worked in an honest and fearless manner. He assured the convention that he would extend his full cooperation to the Boards and would visit various districts of the Province to have meetings and consultations with members

of the Boards to help solve the problems faced by the masses and to provide financial assistance to poor and deserving persons out of Baitul Maal funds.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif added that there were complaints of schools existing only in papers as well as staff shown drawing salaries and asked the Advisory Board members to reform the society and eradicate all sorts of corruption and malpractices rampant among the public servants. He warned that no one among the public servants or Members of Assembly would be spared if found indulging in corruption. He said that Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne and himself would extend full support to the newly constituted Advisory Boards.

The Prime Minister declared that the members of the Advisory Boards would be delegated more powers under the Government's policy of decentralisation and as such asked the members to use their powers judiciously to advise the Government and to pinpoint the malpractices and other social evils in the part of the administration in their respective areas. He added that if the members discharged their functions honestly and fearlessly, they would not only be doing a great service to the nation but also pleasing their Creator and ensuring nation's progress in this world and their salvation in the hereafter.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif exhorted the Advisory Boards to check the water theft by zamindars and to ensure that the small farmers in the tail areas could get adequate water for irrigation purposes.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif said that Pakistan would gain tremendous progress and development during the next five years with the implementation of his Government's revolutionary policies and added that poverty and unemployment would be completely eliminated and the basic needs of the masses would be amply met with.

The Prime Minister added that his Government had set up a Baitul Maal with funds of Rs.[rupees]200 crore and these funds would be utilised for the welfare of poor and deserving persons and urged the members of Advisory Boards to help distribute Baitul Maal funds among the needy. He also asked the members to renew their pledge to work selflessly and to extend their cooperation to the Government in the eradication of corruption and evils from the society.

Mr. Nawaz Sharif, while referring to the role of the Opposition, said that it was the PPP which dismembered the country and now again it was out to create lawlessness in the Sindh Province to dislodge the Jam Sadiq Government. He said that the PPP had been indulging in subversive activities. He also said that the Opposition was showing happiness on the illness of Jam Sadiq who has done a lot to improve the law and order situation in his Province.

Nawaz Sharif's 'Baseless Attack' on Benazir Recounted

92AS0708H Lahore *VIEWPOINT* in English 27 Feb 92
pp 12-13

[Article by Ashraf Mumtaz: "Not Interested in a Rap-prochement"]

[Text] The kind of serious allegations that Prime Minister [PM] Nawaz Sharif levelled against his political adversaries last Thursday should be sufficient to make it crystal clear that he was not interested in a rapprochement with the Opposition and that efforts of NA [National Assembly] Speaker Gohar Ayub Khan would bear no fruit.

Addressing a convention of the District Advisory Board at Bagh-i-Jinnah, in violation of a ban on such meetings which have already marred the beauty of the garden, the Prime Minister said his rivals were the most dishonest and corrupt leaders anywhere in the world and they sold Pakistan's secrets and patronised saboteurs to create a law and order situation in Sindh.

While delivering the speech he got so furious that he looked like a stoker of the Ittefaq Foundry bent upon melting the entire Opposition. His outbursts reminded one of the harsh attack on the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] on 14 August last year when, while laying foundation stone of the Bab-i-Pakistan at Walton, he declared that the PPP was an intolerable party for him as it was responsible for the dismemberment of Pakistan and that whenever he heard the name of this party his blood simply boiled.

The Target

The Prime Minister did not name Benazir Bhutto even once but the contents of his fiery speech amply explained that the target was none else but the former Prime Minister, and the people are strengthening her hands in her movement against the government.

"You have been leaking out Pakistan's secrets. You lost abroad very sensitive files and I can't say (in public) how sensitive files they were which ultimately reached the enemy's hands."

Some files, it may be recalled, had been found outside a hotel where Benazir Bhutto was staying in the United States during her official visit there. Some papers had published reports based on the information in the files.

Nawaz Sharif also castigated the Leader of the Opposition for patronising saboteurs in Sindh and expressing pleasure over the illness of Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali. Needless to point out that he repeated his allegation that the PPP was responsible for the dismemberment of the country.

A number of conclusions can be drawn from the Prime Minister's onslaught. It clearly means that he is not ready to shake hands with his adversaries and he was not interested in the enhancement of his powers which the Opposition had offered to do by the annulment of the controversial Eighth Amendment through IJI-PDA [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad-People's Democratic Alliance] cooperation.

Cognizant of the fact that he was not a man of the calibre the Prime Minister should be, he wants to stay in power for as long a period as his good ties with the President could allow. That the Chief Executive of the country should be a powerful man, and enjoy all powers the PMs in other contemporary democracies do, is not Mr. Nawaz Sharif's consideration.

He just want to complete his "service tenure" by acting so obediently that his "seniors" don't get an opportunity to retire him prematurely.

We fail to understand why Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has not advised the President to move another reference on the charge of selling Pakistan's secrets. Is the allegation baseless or does he not have any proof to substantiate it? What kind of secrets did she sell and to whom?

The Prime Minister and the IJI President has failed so far to take any action against Benazir Bhutto's party for its alleged involvement in the break-up of the country. Lack of action on such a serious charge is beyond one's comprehension.

On a number of occasions people from various walks of life have been demanding publication of the Hamoodur Rehman Commission report so that the nation could know who played what part in the dismemberment of Pakistan. But even General Zia did not do so, although he had missed no opportunity to malign the PPP and poison public minds against it.

Nawaz Sharif would do better to make the report public, if it was not already lost, some Press reports suggested in the past. This would be a better strategy to "bury" an enemy for good and if it was not possible for him for any reason then he should not repeat this allegation in future.

Nawaz Sharif would be helping his "dead" PML [Pakistan Muslim League] in Sindh to flourish if he succeeds in proving that the PPP was responsible for the alleged subversive activities in Sindh. He could come up with proof of the saboteurs patronised by the former ruling party. But if he was just trying to cast aspersion on the PPP to malign it and failed to give any concrete proof the nation would not believe him and it would be against ethics and morality to use the official authority to revile the adversaries without any basis.

So is the position in on corruption charges. No doubt that some elements had levelled corruption charges against PPP but more serious charges have been leveled against the IJI Government. Against Mr. Ten Per Cent of the PPP era, people say there is one Mr. 90 Per Cent in the present government.

The only 'Proof'

The only 'proof' of the PPP's corruption that the Prime Minister gave in its address was that the PPP government was dismissed in August 1990 on this very charge and the people had rejected the PPP during the 1990 elections only for this reason.

Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the former Prime Minister, who on different occasions admitted that the 1990 general elections had been rigged to defeat a certain political leader, and that the LB [Local Bodies] elections in Punjab were won because of the administration's support, had once given very sane advice to prevent the sitting Prime Minister from indulging in corruption. But unfortunately his advice has fallen on the deaf ears.

Jatoi had suggested that the relevant laws should be amended to empower the President to institute references

against the incumbent Prime Minister if he thought it necessary. Being bound to act only on the PM's advice in respect of institution of cases, he said, the sitting PM would never advise him to send a case against himself.

There was still time for the government to amend the laws to give the President powers to move freely against the Prime Minister against whom people levelled charges of corruption.

Benazir, APC Allege Serious Wrongdoings by President

92AS07081 Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92
pp 13-14

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Ms. Benazir Bhutto, has accused the President, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, of having miserably failed to discharge his constitutional duties and of establishing 'monopolistic control' over government affairs in contravention of the constitutional provisions.

Addressing a big public meeting held as part of the APC [All Parties Conference] mass contact campaign at Dhobi Ghat ground in Faisalabad on Monday, the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Co-chairperson said it had become essential to remove the President to uphold the rule of law and save constitutional institutions in the country. She said the President has arrogated additional powers to himself to enrich the members of his family at the cost of national interests.

Family Interests

She alleged that her government was dismissed by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to further his personal and family interests. He was still pursuing a policy of victimisation and vendetta. This, she said, was detrimental to national solidarity.

She dubbed the President a 'supra-constitutional man' who was bent upon destroying every constitutional institution.

She said President Ishaq had not even permitted the Sindh Assembly to elect its leader according to the Constitution and the wishes of the members of the House. This had created frustration among the people of Sindh.

She asked the rulers why they were retaining a 'sick and mentally-retarded person as Chief Minister of Sindh.' Foreign countries, she said, were laughing at the efforts to keep a sick man as the chief executive of a province.

Criticising the wave of political victimisation in Sindh, she said dacoits and criminals were ruling the province while elected representatives and political workers had been sent to jail on false charges.

She alleged that the President himself was patronising the secessionists in Sindh.

She claimed that a linguistic political party kidnapped an army major, who was also tortured. Such ugly incidents had become the order of the day in the province but no action had been taken against the culprits.

Torture Cases

Ms. Bhutto said she appreciated the Federal Government's move to probe the torture cases of political workers and illegal actions of the Karachi CIA [Crime Investigation Agency] but the investigation report should be presented on the Floor of the National Assembly. She demanded that Irfanullah Marwat should be included in his investigation because he is also responsible for lawlessness in Sindh.

She said that on 24 October 1990, the day of the elections the President had declared that the PPP was finished and now it was a dead body, which was being buried. "PPP is evergreen and remains the biggest political party of the country."

The APC Convener, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan addressing the rally said that the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] Government was brought into power through rigging, and "this is the main reason why they have created lawlessness and plundered the national exchequer."

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan termed the IJI Government a 'hotchpotch' of contradictions with the coalescing partners at daggers drawn with one another. He said that IJI Government was the only government in the world whose cabinet members and component parties were not united ever over the most important national and foreign policies. The people should not expect any stable and decent policy from such a government and it is better to throw it out of power, he said.

Earlier, talking to newsmen, Ms. Bhutto said due to defective fiscal policies, the country has been plunged into a serious financial crisis and the Government was not able even to prepare 'next year's budget.' The IJI Government leaders who were making tall claims for industrialisation, were only promoting their own industries by exploiting the national resources.

Exchequer Emptied

She alleged that the Government exchequer had almost been emptied and the rulers were running the country's affairs by spending public money which scheduled banks collected under the foreign exchange account. "It will be a bad day for the nation when the foreign exchange depositors would demand back their money as it will expose the claims of the rulers about the 'financial stability of the county,'" she said. The Government was marking time by printing currency notes which had created an unprecedented price-hike in the country.

The IJI Government, she alleged, had paralysed the constitutional institutions meant for overseeing the financial affairs of the Government. The reports of Auditor-General of Pakistan were not being tabled in the National Assembly and even the Public Accounts Committee had not been allowed to function because the rulers were afraid of their own financial scandals.

Bhutto Speaks in Debate on President's Speech
92AS0739A Karachi DAWN in English 17 Feb 92
pp 1, 12

[Article: "Government Fanning Flames of Secession: Benazir"; boldface words as published]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 16: Leader of the Opposition Ms. Benazir Bhutto said on Sunday that the present rulers were weakening the country by deliberately and purposefully striking a the roots of the popular will.

Opening the debate on the President's speech before the joint sitting of the Parliament, the Opposition leader said nations were kept together by popular will. "If we continue to thwart the popular will, as we are doing with immunity in Sindh and as we have done so in the rest of the country by rigging election after election, we are sowing dangerous seeds," she warned.

Ms. Bhutto said the rulers were once again playing with fire by fanning the flames of secession. "The one paramount lesson to emerge from recent developments in the world, is that nations cannot be kept together by force. Nations are kept together by popular will."

She said her party, having roots in all the four provinces, represents the popular will "but this popular will is deliberately eroded" by launching a relentless persecution against its leaders and members.

In her 70-minute speech, listened to by the Treasury benches patiently, Bhutto lashed out at President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for delivering a "sermon" in the Parliament and complaining that moral decadence was destroying all the values essential for the democracy.

"Who is responsible," for this decadence, she asked and observed: "The very man who now bemoans this decadence, played no small part in its creation."

Benazir said Ishaq Khan collaborated in every "major illegality" during the dictatorial rule in General Ziaul Haq. "The defacto prime minister during that time instead of standing up for public morality, collaborated in every major illegality and callous violation of values whose loss he now regrets and yet he has the audacity to pontificate to us about democracy, constitution and morality," she asked.

She said the President, who advised the parliament to learn from past mistakes, but "I would like to ask him has he followed it himself."

She said ever since President Ishaq Khan stepped into the shoes of his patron, he had been playing "ducks and drakes" with the Constitution, "manipulated the democratic process to suit his own wishes and whims" and dismissed on wholly untenable grounds the very assemblies that had placed him in his chair.

"His whole speech is an example of chicanery, of misrepresentation, of lies. It's a thick pile of blatant distortions, misrepresentations and outright untruths," she maintained.

Benazir said the President also talked about the accountability but noted that such sanctimonious exhortations

could not deceive the people, neither in the country nor abroad. Referring to various reports, she said vindictive accountability was a political victimisation.

The leader of the Opposition said that with each passing day the country was taking a dangerous turn towards secessionism but the rulers have no vision nor do they realise in which direction the country was heading. She said the nation could ill afford polarisation and asked government to adopt bipartisan approach to issues.

Foreign Policy: Ms. Bhutto severely criticised the government for doing "double speak" on the nuclear issue. She said such double speak raises further concerns about the sincerity of Pakistan's claim that our nuclear programme was for peaceful purposes. "We are displaying poor judgment and atrocious diplomacy."

She said Pakistan had been isolated in the community of nations which was disastrous for the country as Pakistan needed bilateral and multi-lateral assistance to finance its development. "Even our conventional defense capability is linked to the supply of spare parts from the outside," she observed.

Afghanistan: The leader of the Opposition said she was proud that the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] government had finally adopted the policy on Afghanistan which was initiated by her during her 20-month tenure in the government i.e. solution of Afghanistan through political means.

Kashmir: Ms. Bhutto also criticised the government for the mess it had made in Kashmir and the way it bungled the JKLF [Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front] march. She said the Front had given the notice of the march two months ago but the rulers were obsessed with domestic politics and failed to capitalise on the issue to draw world attention on such a grave situation.

She said the government failed to anticipate that tensions would rise until the Indian generals talked of hot pursuit and Indian politicians threatened that they would make another example of Bangladesh in Sindh. "This threat of the Indian politicians came on the heels of the officially-sponsored jamboree of separatists held in Karachi," she noted. Benazir Bhutto said that when India threatened us, "the IJI government ducked" and within three days of the Muzaffarabad speech, the Prime Minister said the government would not allow the Kashmiris to cross the border. "I do not say that the Front should not have been stopped. But I do say that our government wasted precious two months. It lost an opportunity, it lost face, and it lost credibility," she remarked.

Pak-India Relations: The former Prime Minister said PPP [Pakistan People's Party] sought to resolve Kashmir dispute and other problems with India like the mutual arms reduction, Kashmir and other issues. Referring to the developments in the world, he said, "We in Pakistan must emerge from our cocoon of empty chauvinism and narrow minded fundamentalism rooted in the past to meet the challenges of the changing world order," she suggested to the National Assembly.

JKLF Chairman Announces March to Control Line

Date Set for 30 Mar

92AS0726A Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 16 Feb 92
p 1

[News Report: "A Complete Strike in Muzafrabad; Declaration To March Again on March 30"]

[Excerpts] Muzafrabad (Special Correspondent)—On Saturday, at the urging of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, there was a total strike in Muzafrabad. All businesses and bazaars were closed and traffic was suspended. Mr. Iman Ullah Khan, the Front's chairman, led a rally throughout the city that ended in a public assembly at Adda Daki. Mr. Iman Ullah Khan addressed the gathering saying that he had not abandoned the plans for crossing the cease-fire line but had only postponed them, and that preparations were under way to cross the cease-fire line. He stated that the cease-fire line would soon be crossed from both sides of the state. Mr. Iman Ullah Khan said that in spite of publicly and secretly promising cooperation and assistance a month and a half ago, the rulers of Azad Kashmir have acted their worst. In an effort to conceal their political role, they attempted to mislead the Pakistani public. He said that had he fallen into their trap and permitted a confrontation between the Muslim army and the angry mob, Pakistan and the Kashmiri independence movement would have encountered a disastrous fate. He said that by stopping him, these rulers have only achieved a temporary victory, but the sacrifices of the people of Azad Kashmir have brought new life to the Kashmir issue at the international level and new strength to the movement in occupied Kashmir. He said that the people of Kashmir and the new generation will hold Kashmiri rulers accountable for practicing self-serving politics. Mr. Zahid Amin Kashif, head of the Liberation Front's political department, said that Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan is trying to start a civil war in Azad Kashmir through the MSF [Muslim Students Federation]; and is hoping to uplift his sinking political career by starting a fight among the Kashmiri people. He said that sardar Abdul Qayum Khan's actions are being attacked by activists in the Muslim Conference, and that all opposition parties are with the Liberation Front. He said that Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan cannot mislead 100 million Pakistanis by stating that the Liberation Front is their enemy. He said that our struggle is against the government of Pakistan and not against its 100 million people. [passage omitted]

Also, the Front's leader, Mr. Iman Ullah Khan, said that on 30 March, on the anniversary of the Liberation Front's martyred leader Ishfaq Majeed Wani, a march across the cease-fire line will begin. He said that the next march will start in Chokoti and he will cross the cease-fire line along with thousands of supporters. According to Iman Ullah Khan, people from both sides of Kashmir will take part in this march. Iman Ullah Khan said that he had postponed the previous march because he did not want to create problems for Pakistan; had the march continued, thousands of innocent people would have been killed at the hands of

the Pakistani Army and this would have generated bad publicity for Pakistan. He hoped that next time Pakistan would not resist.

Continuing From Frontier Town

92AS0726B Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 19 Feb 92
p 3

[News Report: "Thousands of Residents of Occupied Kashmir To Invade the Kashmir Control Line on 30 March. No One Shot Germans When They Demolished the Berlin Wall. Kashmiris Marching Towards the Control Line Will Not Be Armed. Struggle To Continue Until the Independence of Kashmir. Mr. Javed Mir's Press Conference Under the Protection of Armed Colleagues"]

[Excerpt] Sringar (FP)—Commander Javed Ahmad Mir, the leader of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, active in occupied Kashmir, declared that thousands of residents of occupied Kashmir will invade the control line on 30 March. He made this announcement on Tuesday. He said that he will personally lead the procession of thousands of people. It should be remembered that Javed Ahmad Mir, active in the underground, is wanted by the Indian Government in a number of cases. He said that he will continue the struggle until the independence of Kashmir was achieved. He said that the world is well aware of the fact that no one had shot any Germans when they demolished the Berlin Wall. Therefore, there is no reason why they should not follow the German example. Mr. Javed Ahmad Mir, surrounded by his armed colleagues, was speaking at an extemporaneous press conference, which was held at a secret location near Sringar. He said that Kashmiris marching towards the control line would be unarmed. He also said that the march towards the control line would start from the border town of Dari. [passage omitted] It should be kept in mind that in Pakistani-controlled Kashmir, Mr. Iman Ullah Khan, the leader of the Kashmir Liberation Front, had already announced that he would be leading the procession to cross the control line on 30 March.

Azad Kashmir President Talks to Press

92AS0734A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 22 Feb 92 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Accession to Pakistan or India; Kashmiris Won't Accept Any Third Option—Sikandar"]

[Text] Muzaffarabad, Feb. 21: President AJK [Azad Jammu and Kashmir], Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan today declared that the Kashmiris would not accept any option other than accession to Pakistan.

Talking to APP Special correspondent here, he said, the Government of Pakistan and the Azad Kashmir were committed to the implementation of the UN Security Councils resolutions, which provide only two options accession to Pakistan or India.

Ruling out the third option, Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan said the question of third option was only being propagated

to detract the Kashmir freedom struggle from its main talk to make Kashmir an integral part of Pakistan.

He said "the general body of his party Muslim Conference at its meeting held at Srinagar on Jan. 19, 1947 had adopted an unanimous resolution, declaring Kashmir accession to Pakistan.

The AJK president said Pakistan would be incomplete without Kashmir. He expressed his strong confidence that the people and the Government of Pakistan would never compromise to this effect.

He termed the uprising in occupied Kashmir, as a movement of Pakistan. He pointed out that the Kashmiris to that side were currently observing a week to express their total solidarity with Pakistan.

The AJK president categorically denied that the Prime Minister [PM] Nawaz Sharif had made any change in his policy on Kashmir. He said Mohammad Nawaz Sharif was the first head of government in Pakistan who raised Kashmir issue at all international fora forcefully and effectively with all sincerity.

He said he believed that the Kashmir would be liberated from the clutches of Hindus during the tenure of Mohammad Nawaz Sharif's government.

Asked whether Kashmir issue would be again taken to UNO Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan said Kashmir has been recognised worldwide as an internationally disputed area and the issue has remained on the UN agenda.

He hoped that the Government of Pakistan would soon take up the matter with the UNO [UN Organization] for early implementation of its resolutions of Aug., 1948 and Jan. 1949.

He paid rich tributes to Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif for highlighting the Kashmir issue, as number one problem, during his recent visit to Iran and Qatar.

He noted that the right of self determination for the Kashmiri people was reaffirmed during the recently concluded ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] summit in Tehran.

He noted with satisfaction that PM Mohammad Nawaz Sharif took advantage of all available opportunities to raise Kashmir issue at international fora, hoping he would continue to do so.

Replying to another question, Sardar Sikandar Hayat reiterated that Kashmiris did not accept ceasefire line at all. He said even the Security Councils resolutions recognised the Kashmiris right to cross the ceasefire line, when ever they so desired.

Referring to the JKLF's [Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front] move to do so on Feb. 11 last, he said it was not done on a proper time. He said it would have been better to develop consensus among all the major parties before fulfilling his long standing course of action.

About another JKLF's declaration to cross the ceasefire on March 30 next, he said the Government of AJK would take

decision on it according to the prevailing conditions on that date. He said if India did not bow before the liberation struggle and the UNO failed to respond positively to check India atrocities in the occupied territory, then, he added it would be difficult to stop the Kashmiris to cross the line of control.

He dispelled the impression that there was any move to disband the JKLF of arrest the Amanullah Khan. He hoped that JKLF would desist from launching a terrorist move, which compel the government to take any hard or unpleasant decision.

He said Inshallah better sense would prevail and all decisions to strengthen Kashmir movement would be taken with consensus, keeping in view the limitation of the Government of Pakistan. He said integrity of Pakistan was most dear to the Kashmiris.

Sardar Sikandar Hayat emphasised that the brutalities of the Indian forces perpetuated upon the Kashmiris must come to an end for the peace in the region. Otherwise, he added, the situation would lead to extremes and out of control.

Kanjoo Explains Stand on Kashmir, Other Matters

92AS0732A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 28 Feb 92 p 1

[Article: "Nuclear Programme Peaceful: Kanjoo; Pakistan for Intra-Afghan Talks, Plebiscite on Kashmir"]

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 27: The Simla Accord does not force us to forego our right on implementing the United Nations resolutions on Kashmir, said the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mr. Mohammad Siddique Kanjoo, in the National Assembly today.

Participating in the debate on President's speech, the Minister said that many unfounded remarks have been made by some of the members on the foreign policy.

He said the government's policy on Kashmir issue "is very clear." "Pakistan would continue efforts to move the unimplemented United Nations resolutions," (for implementation), he asserted.

The people of Kashmir would decide their future through a free and fair plebiscite to join either India or Pakistan," he added.

He said, he wanted to clarify the doubts of the members, but warned that the foreign policy is a sensitive matter and must be treated with caution.

Referring to the Afghanistan issue, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo said, Pakistan has not diverted from its policy on Afghanistan. He said, it is a misconception that United Nations is a lever of United States of America and Pakistan's peace programme is dictated by America.

Pakistan, he said, has been struggling with the Afghan Mujahideen throughout the Jihad. He said, it was unanimously decided by all the factions and groups that no negotiations could be held with Najibullah, who had destroyed the Afghan nation.

He said Pakistan is now trying for an intra-Afghan dialogue and the United Nations is trying to contact all Afghan groups, in this regard. Pakistan is in touch with all these groups and is hoping that all efforts for peace will succeed.

He categorically stated that it is for the Afghans to decide "when and where to meet, and to decide their future." After the formation of an interim government, "ceasefire would be affected and the Afghan refugees will repatriate to their homeland." Pakistan will assist in the implementation of these decisions he said and added "it is only a logical decision in the same direction."

Commenting on Pakistan's nuclear programme, he said, the government's policy is clearly enunciated and it is peaceful in character. In this regard, he referred to the official statement issued on February 20 and reiterated the government's resolve to adhere to it.

Mr. Kanjoo said, "having nuclear capability is not bad. Italy and Norway have also this capability. But, a political decision that this capability will not be used in any other way but for peaceful purposes should solve the matter."

About the recognition of Israel by Pakistan, he said, "it is a completely unfounded impression. Nothing has been done or said by the government in this regard."

Pakistan, he said, has long-standing traditional and cultural links with the Central Asian Republics. "We are seriously trying to catch up with the time and are expecting distinguished visitors from these republics soon," he said. He said, the number of members of Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) will increase to nine after Kazakhstan.

Commenting on Pak-U.S. relations, the Minister said, "some hiccups came but the marriage has been on. Pakistan, while upholding its dignity and honour will continue to strengthen these relations," the Minister emphatically maintained.

He said, if some misgivings crop up, then these could be overcome, as Pakistan had friendly relations with United States since its independence.

Mr. Kanjoo said that the government is willing to have a debate on the foreign policy, in the National Assembly, whenever, it suits the House. He assured that government will continue to take guidance from the House on the foreign policy.

Mr. Kanjoo said, though the Opposition criticises the government, but it is a fact that the present Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao for the first time has accepted that Kashmir is an issue at Devos, Switzerland. Whereas, the former Indian Prime Minister while sitting in Islamabad had said "Kashmir is our internal matter and we don't discuss our internal matters on foreign land."—APP

Zaki Discusses Kashmir, Afghanistan, Central Asia

92AS0746A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 22 Feb 92 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Zaki on Foreign Policy Developments; Kashmir Issue Highlighted at International Level"]

[Text] Karachi, Feb. 21: Secretary General [S.G.] Foreign Affairs Mr. Akran Zaki said, today the present government has highlighted the Kashmir issue at international level and the Prime Minister has engaged the Indian government in constructive dialogue to solve the problem.

Speaking at Pakistan Institute of International Affairs, on "Recent Developments in the Foreign Policy of Pakistan," the Secretary General said, the Parliaments of the world, and various international forums have condemned the atrocities of the Indian occupation and demanded to give the Kashmiris their right of self-determination.

He said, the Prime Minister Mr. Nawaz Sharif has held various meetings with his Indian counterpart at Male, New Delhi, Colombo and Switzerland and pursued him that "if we want to make the South Asia a peaceful area our economic policies to succeed, strengthen our democratic institutions to have a cooperative SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] region then, India and Pakistan must solve this problem of Kashmir through peaceful means."

Mr. Akran Zaki hoped that the world community and the Security Council would realise their responsibility in solving the problem of Kashmir as they have resolved the Namibian, Cambodian and other international problems in the past.

He said, the Government of Pakistan is sending special envoys in near future to members of the Security Council and other important leading members of international community to invoke their support for finding a peaceful settlement of Kashmir problem.

Talking about the Afghan policy the Foreign Affairs Secretary General hoped that the problem of Afghanistan would be resolved very soon as the present Government had clear cut policy about the Afghan issue.

He said, "in April 1991, the present Government adopted a clear decision to find the political path for the settlement of Afghanistan and since then, Pakistan has been negotiating with Iran, Saudi Arabia, USA, Russian Federation and all the groups of Afghans."

He said, on May 21, 1991, the Secretary General of the United Nations gave a formula for the political settlement of the Afghan issue. Since then efforts have been made to create a consensus around that formula. "And now there is a broad consensus between the U.S., and Russian Federation agreed to stop the supply of arms to both sides from 1st of January" he added.

"Since Jan. 1992 we have requested the Secretary General of the United Nations to implement his plan" he said. He said, "there is broad consensus among all groups of the

Mujahideen that the participation of Najibullah is not accepted and this point of view was accepted by the UNSC on the Oct. 17, 1991 in the report to the UN General Assembly, and in the Moscow Declaration." "All the objectives of the Jihad were fulfilled, therefore those who still oppose this policy have really no justification for continuing unnecessary bloodshed in Afghanistan between brothers" he said, and added, "Pakistan government is determined to pursue a peaceful political settlement of this problem."

Relations with America, Mr. Zaki hoped, would improve with the passage of time. He said, "passions and firmness of Pakistan stand on the nuclear proliferation has produced flexibility in the attitude of United States."

Talking about the five-nation proposal of the Prime Minister, Mr. Zaki said, the prime Minister proposed on June 6, 1991, that U.S. Russian Republic, China, India and Pakistan should settle the nuclear non-proliferation issue with great consensus and within the regional framework.

He said, the proposal is recognised by various nations of the world and called it a more practical method of achieving the object of non-proliferation.

He said, "there are various common factors in which we had worked together with United States, but, we have made clear to it that Pakistan would not accept unilateral restrictions," however he said, all the problems would be resolved with continuous dialogue."

Mr. Akran Zaki reiterated Pakistan's stand that the nuclear issue can only be solved with regional framework.

Talking about the relations with Central Asian Muslim republics, the S.G. Foreign Affairs said, there is big potential of economic and cultural opportunities in those countries and the business community can play significant role in making the relations more vibrant and strong. He said, PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] has signed an agreement to start flights to Tashkent. Like this, many agreements for cooperation in economic, commercial, and cultural fields have been signed and the presidents of two Muslim republics are scheduled to visit Pakistan in near future.

He said, five republics have joined the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] and the sixth has requested for membership.

He said, ECO is emerging as a community for Central Asian nations and hoped that Pakistan would gain more areas despite losing some areas.—APP

Jamaat Chief Against Independent Kashmir

92AS0737A Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES
in English 15 Feb 92 p 1

[Article: "Kashmir Can't Survive Without Accession to Pakistan"; quotation marks as published]

[Text] Multan, Feb. 14: The Amir of Jamaat-i-Islami, Pakistan Senator Qazi Hussain Ahmed, has contended that the concept of a sovereign Kashmir is impracticable and is based on fallacy as the sovereign Kashmir cannot survive without its accession to Pakistan.

He said that pro-U.S. and pro-India elements were advocating for this concept in order to cause infight among Kashmiris.

Talking to newsmen here, he maintained that there was no concept of Kashmir, which was not acceded to Pakistan. He declared that this party would neither accept a sovereign Kashmir nor allow its formation.

He opined that the independence of Kashmir without accession to Pakistan was impossible. He said that the United States, its allies and India were trying to trap Pakistan on Kashmir issue and urged the Government to be alert against their conspiracies.

He regretted the killing and injuring of Kashmiris near control line and maintained that it could have been averted if the Government had wisely planned. Senator alleged that the failure of the Government to manage the situation had provided a chance to anti-Pakistan elements to propagate that both India and Pakistan had reached the same level over Kashmir issue.

The Jamaat chief, however, said that wheel jam strike throughout Pakistan and in Held Kashmir had revived Kashmir issue and realised the world about Indian imperialist designs and its barbaric atrocities. He said enthusiastic spirit of the Kashmiris to cross line of control had proved that India could not hold its occupation for long and it would have to quit Occupied area sooner or later. He said that February 5 strike had also proved the ideological unity of the people of Pakistan over Kashmir issue and their solidarity with the freedom fighters.

Qazi Hussain argued that Islam and love to Pakistan were two real factors behind existing struggle for freedom of Kashmir. He said that the Kashmiris' enthusiasm to cross line of control had also proved that the artificial line could not be maintained long. He urged the people of Kashmir, Government of AJK [Azad Jammu and Kashmir] and Pakistan to be careful about those, who are trying to divide them in order to damage Kashmiris' cause and sabotage freedom movement.

To a question whether IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] is existing or not, the Amir of Jamaat-i-Islami said that "this question should be asked from Mian Nawaz Sharif, who is the President."

He urged the Government not to test the patience of his party. To another question he informed that his party was playing an effective role in existing situation and when it perceived that it could play the same role from outside the Government it would disassociate from it. "We are independent people and can take any decision at any time and therefore there is no need to tell timetable of disassociation from IJI."

He warned that people of Pakistan and Kashmir would not tolerate any shift in existing Kashmir's policy. Under UNO's [UN Organizations] resolutions the people of Kashmir would have to decide whether they were willing to accede to Pakistan or to India through plebiscite and there was no third option.

He did not oppose APC's [All Parties Conference] long march campaign and maintained that to enhance contacts with the masses was a genuine right of political parties. But the Opposition and the people should be careful that no crisis harmful for the country should come out of this campaign, he exhorted.

He said that Pakistan could survive without the United States if a popular government was existing here, adding that "our country is invincible and it needs a popular government to meet external threats."

Senator Qazi Hussain Ahmed said that all-out help should be extended to Afghan mujahidin at the present juncture for installation of an Islamic Government in Kabul which would open the door for Pakistan to the Muslim Central Asian Republics.

Addressing a Press conference at the residence of Mr. Khurshid Khan Kanju here, he said that the United States wanted to instal former King Zahir Shah, who could not be accepted by the Afghans. We could not accept Indian supremacy in Afghanistan, he added.

Qazi Hussain Ahmed also stressed upon the need to extend help to the Kashmiri freedom fighters who were struggling to liberate their homeland from the Indian occupation.—PPI.

Kashmiri Leader Interviewed on Weapons Supplies, Plans

92AS0660B Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 14 Feb 92
p 6

[Interview with Sayyed Salauddeen, Commander in Chief of Hizb-i Almujaheedin, by Mohammed Saghir Qamar; place and date not given]

[Text] [Qamar] Why did you decide to fight for independence instead of asking for it?

[Salauddeen] If you take a close look at the history of Kashmir's independence, you will easily find that I have tried to get independence peacefully for as long as I could. However, when the Indian Government did not agree to it, I was forced to take up arms to get our rights. For the 40 years from 1947 to 1987, atrocities and oppression were used against us, and India remembers this. Until 1987, our whole history was about independence. This was the time of the Palestinian revolution. We continued to reply to bullets with rocks, pebbles, and staffs.

[Qamar] What happened in 1987 to change your attitude?

[Salauddeen] The freedom fighters had high hopes tied to the 1987 elections; however, when a lot of corrupt practices were involved in the elections, the people lost all hope of gaining independence through the ballot. Similarly, 1987 was the year when the open war started between right and wrong. On one side was the alliance of the National Conference and the Congress Party (Farooq and Rajiv). They had the army, police, and blind force. On the other side were the unarmed, helpless people of Jammu and Kashmir. They were taking part in a referendum on a joint front to gain their independence. If the results of the vote had not been

doctored, the Muslim United Front candidates would have won the election by a huge majority. I ran for election from Lal Chowk, Sri Nagar. I started my election campaign with the pure spirit of jihad. The young people were the real power behind the United Front. Many of my associates picked up guns and served as bodyguards for my support. The young people were hoping that after a decisive victory, no one would be able to stop them from reaching their goals of independence. However, the situation was entirely different. During the election campaign, the whole state rebelled under the flag of the Muslim United Front. Thousands of people participated in various meetings and raised slogans against India in a very aggressive manner.

[Qamar] What was the purpose of establishing Hizb-i al-Mujaheddin?

[Salauddeen] This was a sincere effort to gain independence and is still going on.

[Qamar] What were the priorities of the military activities of the Hizb-i al-Mujaheddin?

[Salauddeen] I was still in jail when the Hizb-i al-Mujaheddin started many of its activities. After my release, I was made commander in chief of the organization. First we blasted a bomb at the Wooler Barge. The machinery in the barge is still in the same situation; nobody could rebuild it. During the next few months, I purged all the "snakes" from under my sleeve [got rid of traitors]. No jihad can be successful without eliminating informers. I am still working on this plan. At present, we are taking very little action. Most of the traitors have been killed. In addition, we destroyed the stockpiling of the Indian Army's ordinance center near Khanna Mokanoji petrol depots. This way, we were involved in hundreds of activities, and I would need a whole office to explain them to you. We attacked patrol parties at Farsil, Kolgam, Shaupian, Tingam, Latpura, Sri Nagar, Birwa, Vidgam, Bijbahara, and many other places. This way, the Indian armed forces lost a lot of lives and equipment. We also participated in many activities with other organizations, such as the Muslim Janbaz Force, al-Umar, the Allah Tigers, and the Liberation Front. The Indian Army was greatly hurt by these joint attacks.

[Qamar] Did you also try to destroy communications systems?

[Salauddeen] Of course. We destroyed the high-power television transmission station at Dal Gate, Sri Nagar. This equipment was worth millions of rupees. The Indians are very upset by being hurt at both the political and military fronts. India's first desire is to have various mujahid organizations fighting among themselves. They have introduced some agents in various mujahid organizations for this purpose. There is no doubt that both the Liberation Front and the Hizb-i al-Mujaheddin differ in their approaches; however, we will not let the enemy take advantage of our differences. The Indian Government should not be deluded by this. We are one, and we remain united. We have the goal of independence in front of us, and we are fighting jointly and will continue to do so to attain it. India's communications media often exaggerate minor incidents. In order to hide its own brutal activities, Indian soldiers first kill our

young people in their torture cells, then throw their bodies near the Control Line to give the impression that these people were coming from Pakistan. How long will India continue to try and fool other people?

[Qamar] Are the mujaheddin changing their policies?

[Salauddin] The situation is such that we have to face new things every minute and we change our policy and approach immediately. The Indian Army has become so desolate that at times they visit our leaders and elders. They appealed to them that they would not do anything to them and asked them to ask the mujaheddin not to fight with or bother them. Now sometimes it happens that our mujaheddin parade with sugar cane in their hands, and the Indian armed forces pass them with their eyes to the ground.

[Qamar] Didn't the local people suffer from the mujaheddin's activities?

[Salauddin] It is true that they are hurt; however, by the grace of God, the people themselves are fighting this war. They are offering their wealth, land, and gardens to God to attain their goals. They offer their lives. They also offer many secret hiding places to us. Their prayers are with us. However, the continued curfew and army patrols have paralyzed the economy, but we have decided now that we will expand our activities to far-flung Indian cities. We will destroy their large factories, railway headquarters, and other major sources of income. We have already forced India into a corner over Kashmir's economic situation. The millions of rupees that India made from the tourism industry in Kashmir has been totally stopped. Taxes from alcoholic beverages, videos, and movie houses worth millions of rupees have also stopped. All income from lumber export has been stopped also. The billions of rupees that India earned from our fruits is not there any more. We have closed all sources of income for India and have also created many reasons for new expenses. How long will the Indian Government be able to afford all the expenses of keeping 300,000 military personnel in Kashmir? How long will it have the luxury of burning billions of rupees in ammunition and gasoline?

[Qamar] Did the Hizb-i al-Mujaheddin kidnap former Parliament member Abdulahid Kar?

[Salauddin] Abdulahid is a traitor. He played the role of an Indian agent. We must teach him a lesson for his treachery.

[Qamar] We have recently learned that Prime Minister Narasimha Rao is planning to visit Kashmir.

[Salauddin] Impossible! No Indian leader can enter Kashmir without our permission. The mujaheddin are ruling Kashmir. If anyone wants to come here, they must first meet our demands. When Rajiv came to Kashmir, he was not the prime minister. Also, from airport to hotel and from hotel to airport is not really a visit. Rajiv has met his maker; now let us see if any other leader dares to come here.

[Qamar] Where do you get ammunition and weapons from?

[Salauddin] It is not very difficult to get weapons during these times. We have three sources. One is the open market

in India. Second, Indian military personnel also sell weapons to us. Third, we confiscate weapons from the troops we capture.

[Qamar] Does Pakistan give you weapons aid?

[Salauddin] If necessary, we will get it from Pakistan. We will get it from Iran, too, as well as from Afghanistan.

[Qamar] What is the situation with the campaigns in Laddakh and Kargil?

[Salauddin] Laddakh and Kargil are areas covered with snow year round and are cut away from us. However, we have organized our campaigns there also. Pretty soon you will see some positive results. Similarly, we will start open activities in Jammu.

[Qamar] What do you want to say in conclusion?

[Salauddin] The last thing I want to say is that Kashmir's jihad is close to reaching its goal. However, this is not our last goal. We are going all the way to Delhi. The Red Fort and the Shahi Masjid are our legacy, and we want to get those back. We badly need financial aid at present. We are requesting that the Islamic world in general, and Pakistan in particular, do whatever they can to help us attain our goals. The people of Pakistan should be ready to sacrifice their lives along with us. The helpless and suffering mothers, sisters, and daughters are waiting for you. It is possible that we will give you the call to fight along with us. You must come here, because Kashmir is yours. You are the life and soul of this effort. Pakistan is ours. It is the jugular vein that keeps us alive. It is the result of our dreams and desires. Whenever we visit the holy land of Pakistan, we put our right foot in first. We pray to Allah and thank him for Pakistan. When we leave Pakistan, our left foot is the first one out. Whenever this sacred land was threatened, we took bullets on our chest. Be it Pakistan Day, Pakistan Defense Day, the occasion of the Aujari Camp, or bomb blasts in Rawalpindi or Peshawar, we consider Pakistan's happiness our happiness, and its sorrow our sorrow. However, the Himalayas of problems have now fallen on us, and you are quiet. What can be more surprising and distressing than this?

Mismanagement of Sindh Detailed, Condemned

92AS0708F Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92
p 11

[Text] After several Federal Ministers shuttling between Islamabad and Karachi for months, finally, at last, a temporary arrangement for the governance of the troubled province of Sindh—suffering from administrative paralysis for the last five months—has been arrived at to gradually ease out the ailing Jam.

Without publicly acknowledging Jam Sadiq Ali's incapacitation and calling the new choice, Syed Muzaffar Husain Shah, the Acting Chief Minister, changing of the guard took place on 18 February when Mr. Shah became Minister of Coordination, Law and Order and Agriculture and President's son-in-law Irfanullah Marwat was deprived of his all-powerful portfolio of Home Affairs. However, the

unelected Marwat has been given another important portfolio—Service and General Administration (which had always been with the Chief Minister) in which capacity he can appoint his confidants to all important offices and thus have his finger in every provincial pie.

The Threesome

Although denied by the government, rumours persist that a committee of three consisting of Muzaffar, Marwat and Tariq Javed, will govern the province in the interim period. These men represent all forces except those of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. The president has his son-in law, Pagara and other Sindhi wadera groups have their representative in Muzaffar, and the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] has Tariq Javed. Thus the President has succeeded in keeping Nawaz Sharif out of Sindh as he has been keeping him out of the Frontier Province.

The man who is suffering from cirrhosis of the liver—a disease generally caused by excessive drinking—and is unable to walk and talk, Jam Sadiq Ali had become so irreplaceable for the existing political system, born of massively rigged elections, that even dozens of trips by Federal Ministers could not find a constitutional replacement.

Many Federal Ministers, including Chaudhry Nisar Ali (of the kitchen cabinet), and Sattar Lalika, have been shuttling between Islamabad and Karachi for more than a month, but failed to pick up an agreed alternative. The Jam's removal, so long he is alive, no matter what the condition of his health, threatens to bring down the entire edifice of the current setup which has been contrived by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. The problem has arisen because of the intense hatred the president, the prime minister and the MQM entertain for the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and the Bhutto ladies. These three have not been able to agree on an individual who shares their hatred and as ruthless as the Jam and still reconciles conflicting group interests.

For these reasons, Islamabad has made this arrangement under which the Jam will remain the nominal Chief Minister and Muzaffar Husain Shah, without being called the Acting Chief Minister (to which office MQM has laid claim) will act as such.

Irfanullah Marwat has so far been shielding former CIA [Crime Investigation Agency] Director Samiullah Marwat, accused of involvement in dacoities, murders, rape, extortion, etc. Even the prime minister found himself helpless and finally ordered the inquiry to be held *ex parte*.

Irfanullah Marwat, although deprived of the portfolio of police, holds charge of Services and General Administration in which capacity he has the control of all officers of the Sindh Government and would thus continue non-cooperation with the Prime Minister's Inspection Team in its investigations against the CIA and its former Director, Samiullah Marwat.

In pursuance of the prime minister's orders, General Shafiq the chief of the Inspection Team, arrived in Karachi and started the inquiry by meeting the victims of CIA excesses and recording their statements. The General is not getting

the full cooperation of the Sindh Government. (The Acting Chief Minister said that he was not aware of Gen. Shafiq's presence in the city).

Islamabad's Unsympathetic Sindh Policy Criticized

92AS0757C Islamabad THE MUSLIM (Supplement)
in English 6 Mar 92 p 2

[Article by Farhatullah Babar; Quotation marks as published]

[Text] On Feb 35th [as published] the government chose not to produce the Sindhi nationalist leader G.M. Syed before Justice Qazi Muhammad Akbar, Judge Special Court for Suppression of Terrorist Activities in Karachi where the octogenarian leader is facing trial for sedition. G.M. Syed had been under house arrest after a case was registered after some initial hesitation, against him for making a speech at Nishtar Park Karachi on the eve of his 89th birthday on Jan 17th demanding the liberation of Sindh from Pakistan.

The government developed cold feet in the Syed case after the Sindhi nationalist declared that he will plead guilty to the charges and tell the court that he indeed was working for the break up of Pakistan and the creation of an independent Sindhi Desh. The court has now fixed March 25, as the date of next hearing and directed the jail authorities to ensure that Syed was produced before it on that date.

Within a day of this embarrassment, the requisitioned session of the Sindh Assembly on Feb 27th, was prorogued by the Speaker Abdul Razique Khan only after two hours of debate. The Assembly was prorogued after the Speaker ruled out of order a motion sought to be moved by the leader of the opposition to discuss the unconstitutionality of the decision taken in Islamabad to appoint Syed Muzaffar Hussain Shah as *de facto* Chief Minister in place of ailing Jam Sadiq Ali. The motion moved under the signatures of 30 members sought to consider a "definite and urgent matter of public importance" arising out of the fact that the "government in Sindh was not being run in accordance with the Constitution, *inter alia*, because of the serious illness of Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali".

The Assembly session was held in the typical Jam Sadiq ali's style. Opposition MPAs [Members of Provincial Assembly] were not given notice of the session until only three hours before the House was due to be summoned. The relevant rules were violated only to prevent them from attending the session. In the past the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] members, under detention, were allowed to take part in the proceedings. Now the two opposition MPAs who are under detention were not allowed. Yet the opposition managed hundred percent presence. The government side could not bring in all its MPAs in spite of the clear indications given earlier that it would propose a vote of confidence in the incumbent Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali. Sensing embarrassment the ruling alliance MPAs did not even try to seek vote of confidence for the ailing Chief Minister nor was any division asked for to establish its strength in the Assembly. The Speaker promptly dismissed the opposition contention

that the exercise of powers of a Chief Minister by a Provincial Minister was unconstitutional, ruled the motion out of order and prorogued the Assembly.

The government flaunted in the Assembly the argument that 'if Jam Sahib is indisposed it does not mean that he ceases to be the Chief Minister'. With a view perhaps to lend strength to this argument the President Ghulam Ishaq Khan soon after the prorogation of Assembly visited the ailing Jam Sadiq Ali, issued a certificate of good health and said that the Chief Minister was fast recovering and would soon resume his normal duties. To cover his flanks and ensure that the interim arrangements were not challenged 'from within' the President also publicly issued certificate of good conduct to MQM [Muhajir Quami Movement]. The Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif went a step further and stated that Jam Sadiq Ali was improving and 'he is discharging his duties as the Sindh Chief Minister'. But while the President and Prime Minister were issuing their own medical certificates, the Federal Health Minister Syed Tasnim Nawaz Gardezi spilled the beans. "Jam has a very acute liver problem," he said and disclosed that "physicians from abroad were treating him."

Why the powers that be in Islamabad are stuck in the Sindh quagmire is not difficult to see. Islamabad's overriding concern is to have a government of its own choice in Sindh, no matter what the cost. It is seeking to run the affairs of the province on an ad hoc basis till such time a suitable substitute for the ailing Chief Minister is found who can keep together the disparate groups in the Assembly and run the province a la Jam Sadiq style.

Little thought is being given to the Constitution and the consequences of bypassing it. The President prides himself in being a constitutionalist and one who follows the book. Addressing the Joint Session of parliament soon after his election on Dec 14, 1988, he said: "All the mistakes that we made in the past flowed from one fundamental mistake of not upholding the Constitution and interpreting it at will for transient political objectives. As a result we lost the track and drifted from our destination". In dealing with Sindh now however, the President seems to have forgotten that the clear provision (Article 135) in the 1973 Constitution which provided for a Provincial Minister to act on behalf of the Chief Minister was repealed by the Revival of the Constitution Order (RCO) 1985. Clearly, any attempt to install an Acting Chief Minister now will amount to circumventing the Constitution. Once again a 'fundamental mistake' is being repeated for a 'transient political objective'. The tragedy is that the mistake is being made by no less a person who has been warning the nation against it.

Whether it is embarrassment in the sedition case against G.M. Syed or the problems arising out of the appointment of an ad hoc Chief Minister in Sindh, the paradoxes flow from Islamabad's insistence on having a government of its choice in the province and keeping the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] at bay. The policy of hounding the opposition in Sindh first forced the government in Islamabad to fraternize with G.M. Syed. The Sindhi nationalist leader took full advantage of this political compulsion of the rulers in Islamabad and drew his own political agenda. He knew

that the harsh speeches he had been making against Pakistan in his home town Sann were like preaching to the converted. So he deliberately chose Nishtar Park Karachi for his latest tirade against Pakistan to make his voice reach not only the Presidency and corridors of power in Islamabad but even beyond.

He played a fast one by demanding his pound of flesh from those who were now pursuing their own "transient political objectives".

The government is now paying the price. If it presses the sedition charge, which G.M. Syed says he will plead guilty to, it will be playing right into Syed's hands to make the government commit the blunder of making a case against him as a case against Sindh. It will provide a cause to Sindhis to rally round a slogan which has never inspired them in the past. After all, not long ago the national liberation movement in the erstwhile East Pakistan was unwittingly whipped up when the Agartala conspiracy case against Sheikh Mujib became a case against East Pakistan itself.

But if the government drops the case, G.M. Syed and his nationalist followers will be conceded a free hand. Two years ago the President repeatedly asked the PPP government to institute a case against G.M. Syed for desecrating the national flag. A case was registered only to be withdrawn later by Jam Sadiq Ali's government. His supporters will have a hard time explaining why the President is looking the other way for the second time as the government withdraws sedition charges against G.M. Syed.

Indeed, the farther the rulers in Islamabad go in pursuit of their "transient political objectives", the deeper they get stuck in the quagmire of Sindh.

Background, Evolution of 'Jaiy Sindh' Discussed

92AS0757B Islamabad THE MUSLIM (Supplement)
in English 9 Mar p 2

[Article by Azizur Rahman Bughio; quotation marks as published]

[Text] Nobody now doubts the sincerity and patriotism of the Bengalis of the then East Pakistan on the issue of their cessation from Pakistan. We all know now that the tragic happening was caused by a denial of just and fair treatment to our brothers by the ruling elite who, in the name of 'Islam' and 'ideology', centralized all powers in West Pakistan reducing the other wing to almost a colony. With the passage of time, under a long period of martial law, they lost faith in equality and justice and, when pushed to point of no return with accusations of lack of patriotism, the Bengalis bid goodbye to their compatriots with the establishment of Bangladesh. They had no doubt paid a heavy price in the process.

Now, many of us would admit that a similar situation is developing in Sindh by immigrants asserting their separate identity. It appears that the loss of East Pakistan has not taught us a lesson. Political decisions continue to be imposed from Islamabad, bypassing the people in clear violation of the basic principles of politics. Adhocism,

especially in administration, is applied in politics too—a dangerous tactic used to cover up faults and failures because of incompetence and selfishness inherent in the ruling elite. The long-term interests of the province are being ignored and events are being treated with short sightedness through short-cut and temporary solutions. In fact, problems in the province have been created by people of vested interests for petty political motives. As the Sindhi proverb says: “the notables take it as a shooting game while animals die.”

Very genuine issues when raised for redressal, were confused and cursed as anti-Pakistan and anti-Islam. For instance, when the people of Sindh demanded a measure of provincial autonomy (now almost accepted for all provinces in principle) in the fifties, it was immediately dubbed as a rebellion against Pakistan. This demand by the Muslims of Sindh was a very genuine one because they had won it in 1936, in separation from the Bombay Residency. The fruits could not be enjoyed in view of the struggle for and emergence of Pakistan during the next 10 years. Instead, Sindh's status as a separate province was ended when it was unilaterally merged as one unit, without any heed to the popular feelings of the people. A veteran leader of the country, Shaikh Abdul Majid Sindhi remembered it in these words:

“Hyderabad was converted into a military camp to decide a purely constitutional issue. The unification proposal has been passed with the aid of province-wise intimidation, coercion, repression and suppression of public opinion.”

The then President of Pakistan, Iskandar Mirza, had arrogantly said: “One unit is a steam roller. Have you seen a steam roller being stopped by small pebbles on a road?... None can stop the formation of West Pakistan's One Unit. No doubt should be entertained in this connection.”

As a result, the people of Sindh had, once again, to fight for the restoration to the previous position of a province—this time vis-a-vis their own brethren in Pakistan instead of the Hindus. What an irony of fate!

In this context, if you analyze the much-blown-out-of-proportion allegation of ‘Sindhu Desh’ (more talked of by the Urdu press than the Sindhis themselves in the initial days), factually and psychologically you will find that it was nothing other than an economically and politically viable Sindh within Pakistan. Even veteran leader Mr G.M. Syed originally sought the same thing if you assess his stand in a nutshell. The slogan of ‘Sindhu Desh’ is nothing but a culmination of the ‘Jaiy Sindh’ movement.

The ‘Jaiy Sindh’ Tehrik has been deliberately and mischievously presented and played up to create an impression as if the people supporting it were rebellious and, harbored evil designs against Pakistan, when actually there was nothing of this kind. In fact, it was the Urdu press which sensationalized and played up everything out of proportion thereby creating misunderstanding about the attitudes and actions of the local people of Sindh, in order to achieve, if nothing else, at least a boost in their circulation and sale.

If one traces the history of the ‘Jaiy Sindh’ movement, one can see that it was basically a reaction to the imposition of

One Unit. The One Unit makers and its supporters claimed the end of Sindh as a separate entity and its supporters claimed the end of Sindh as a separate entity and the slogan of ‘Jaiy Sindh’ raised by the Sindhis amounted to a forceful ‘no’. It was an expression of their assertion on the question of Sindh's existence to the effect “No, Sindh is not dead. It is alive”. ‘Jaiy Sindh’ literary means, ‘Let Sindh Live’. Originally, it was the Sindh Hari leader, the late Haider Bakhsh Jatoti who, finding his province in this painful situation (being ended through One Unit) composed his famous ode in praise of Sindh repeating the words ‘Jaiy Sindh’ at the end of every stanza. This catchy phrase was later picked up by the younger generation in a fit of emotionalism.

The tragedy is that the national press, Urdu and English (particularly from Karachi) did not play its expected role befitting its claimed status. It did not serve as a medium of dialogue among the people of different points of view, helping in synthesizing a national consensus on major political, economic and social issues in the new circumstances. Such an exchange of views honestly conducted among enlightened and broad-minded citizens, who are amenable to reason, is the life-blood of a system of accountability and civilized behavior. And this is exactly the essence of democracy which we have been claiming to be establishing in the country.

This kind of handling of the situation in Sindh was more necessary in view of the new scenario caused by new comers in great numbers. But, as on every issue raised by the local people (which, in fact, was an equally important issue for the new comers), the national press took a contrary stand on the problem of One Unit. An eminent scholar, Dr Nabi Bakhsh Khan Baloch, once observed, “the national press had come to be an opposite camp, a role that was played by the Sindhi Hindu Press vis-a-vis the Sindhi Muslim Press prior to 1947. The record of the first ten years (1947-58), in terms of write-ups and editorials in the national press, shows a marked lack of favorable response or support to the legitimate grievances of the Sindhis.”

Not only was this expected help not offered, but the Muhajirs and their press presented and painted the virtues of Sindh as vices. For instance, association with and commitment to the land of one's birth place and anxiety to improve its conditions or love and reverence for the local heroes and rich historical traditions, are natural and in-born characteristics. But in the case of Sindh, they were regarded and dubbed as ‘parochialism’ and ‘narrow-mindedness’ and, therefore, harmful to Islam and Pakistan and thus, outright condemnable.

It was natural that the problems raised by the original people were of a local nature and the act of raising them could not render their loyalty and patriotism doubtful. In contrast to this position, having no attachment to and association with the land of their present settlement and with no genuine urge for the improvement of the local areas, the Muhajirs did not feel moved and motivated to fight for such causes, thereby leaving the locals in the lurch. This was abnormal in the sense that they should have felt for the land of their new abode and refuge and thus awakened to its

needs, joining with the locals to find solutions. But their dissociation from and lack of involvement in the problems of the locals were described as patriotism for Pakistani 'nationhood'. Thus what normally should have been termed as 'vice' went to them as unearned 'virtue'.

Physically, One Unit had been disbanded in 1970 but, for all practical purposes, it continued. Not only was the demand for provincial autonomy a refused and the representative character of Sindhis ignored, but all illegalities in terms of undue exploitation of economic and employment sources including lands, services, etc. were not being rectified, nay, were legalized. Besides, new deprivations such as the replacement of the Sindhi language with Urdu in schools, took place. Language realities have also not been properly appreciated and recognized in Pakistan. What was done with the majority spoken language of the then East Pakistan is now an old chapter of our history. But, in the rest of what remained as Pakistan after 1971, Sindhi is the only indigenous language claiming the credit and status of an ancient and a developed form, with a rich published literature and press. It has remained a medium of instruction and was making fast progress. Despite all this, Sindhi has been treated at par with other provincial languages such as Punjabi, Pushto and Balochi which are mainly spoken languages with Urdu replacing their regional press and teaching status. This unjust treatment coupled with Urdu's undue in-roads in its regional status hurt the Sindhis intellectually.

No one has thought about the real causes of the fearless display of valor and the full participation of Sindhis in the MRD [Mouvement for the Restoration of Democracy] show of strength of 1983. If it was only a political demonstration, it should have been responded to by all the provinces equally, as it concerned them in equal measure. Why did Sindh went all for it and hit the news headlines in the world media? Actually, the above-mentioned frustrations, accumulated over a period of time, had found expression in an apparent political explosion of 1983. It looked like an uprising confined to Sindh only and that too, in the rural areas, boycotted by the urban population. Thus an issue of national nature and of a mighty magnitude was provincialized, not only separating Sindhis from the national mainstream but also reviving Sindhi nationalism. This was a dangerous development. "In the Zia years, the Sindhis were specially targeted for persecution. Unknown to most of the people in the country till even today, several villages in Sindh were completely wiped out by helicopter gunships during the MRD Movement in 1983". This was stated by Mr Qaisar Bengali, in his article published in THE MUSLIM of February 1, 1991.

He adds: "The Sindhis, therefore, suffer from a sense of helplessness and a sense of loss of control over their destiny. mention has also been made earlier of the fear of being turned into a minority and the anger over the history of injustices meted out to them. The sense of helplessness, fear, bitterness and anger provides for an explosive combination to enable militancy, extremism and terrorism to raise its ugly head."

Another cause of concern to Sindhis is the emergence of the Muhajir Qaumi Movement on the political horizon based on ethnic considerations, widening the gap between the locals and the Muhajirs yet further. Previously, the Muhajirs had dissociated themselves from local issues and refused to support Sindhis, claiming that as true and patriotic Pakistanis, they would not lower themselves to the provincial level. But now, with the demand for a fifth nationality, the Muhajirs had hinted at division of Sindh. On their demand, Biharis from Bangladesh are being repatriated, adding to their numbers. Thus the tragedy for Sindhis has deepened. Previously, they suffered from economic and political disparities but now in the changed situation, the Sindhis are confronted with the real threat of being reduced to a minority in their very own province and even of complete annihilation.

Yet, another factor that has accelerated the process of Sindhi disenchantment with what Pakistan stands for is the fear and suspicion caused by Muhajirs to be the sole markers and defenders of Pakistan and Islam. In Sindh at least, unfortunately the Muhajirs as a group has behaved in a manner smacking of vested interests fighting for dominance on the basis of cultural superiority and exclusiveness. By becoming rich overnight with favorable fortune from evacuee properties and privileges, the muhajirs stood aligned with the exploitative class of jagirdars and waderas. In religion, the Sindhis, influenced by the sufi system of teachings and practice, were more tolerant and less agitative than the muhajirs on issues of Islamic and sectarian origin. Besides, the muhajirs aloofness from and hostility to the general causes of Sindh also disappointed the locals. These facts combined to widen the gulf between the two. Since the muhajirs claimed monopoly over representation of Islam and defence of Pakistan, all Sindhi frustration were inevitably attributed to Islam and Pakistan, pushing them further away from the national mainstream and inclining them towards Sindhi nationalism.

Historically and traditionally, the people of Sindh are very tolerant, accommodative and peaceful. In the land of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai, they teach and practice his message of peace, love and brotherhood. Shah exhorted them: "Do not pay others in their coins, i.e., forgive them even if they do excess to you, because he who commits aggression has to suffer eventually and the evil doer is ultimately a loser."

Today, in frustration, these followers of the peaceful path and believers of non-violence, are heard raising their voice in an unexpectedly different tone, through another poet who says: "Oh, Bhitai, wake up, Sindh is calling you, many Maruis are dying behind bars. Come, so that behind you, we may destroy the arrogants and those who indulge in excesses."

Now, who is responsible for this change of heart of the people of Sindh? Today, they feel dejected and frustrated and see no ray of hope for the solution of their ever-increasing problems. With the passage of time, the number of well wishers of exploited Sindh is naturally swelling. People naturally look to leaders like G.M. Syed who has been constantly and consistently vocal and vehement on issues facing Sindh. He may have failed in practical politics

and perhaps that is why he has never been voted into power. But his sincerity and involvement in all that concerns Sindh is beyond doubt. As explained above, the slogan of 'Jaiy Sindh' is a well wishing prayer rather than a rebellion. As such, the 'Jaiy Sindh'is', i.e., those wishing Sindh well and asserting that 'Sindh is alive', will be growing in stature and strength. Shah Bhitai had himself raised a similar slogan bordering on 'Jaiy Sindh' when he said: "Oh, Lord, shower everlasting prosperity on Sindh. May you with kind grace, prosper the entire Universe."

Sindh Problem Discussed at Mauritius Reception

92AS0757D Islamabad *THE MUSLIM in English*
13 Mar 92 p 3

[Article by Ishrat Hyatt]

[Text] Islamabad, March 12: A reception to mark the Accession of Mauritius to the Status of Republic and the 24th Anniversary of Independence was hosted by the acting High Commissioner of Mauritius and Mrs Soborun at Holiday Inn.

Speaker of the National Assembly, Gohar Ayub, and Minister for Labor, Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis Ejazul Haq, senior diplomats and Pakistani friends of the couple attended the reception. Neither of the two Pakistani VIPs circulated among the guests, but stood near the door. "To make a quick-getaway", said one of the guests when another had remarked on this! Gohar Ayub stayed for a short while but Ejazul Haq for a longer period. People went to speak to him when they recognized who he was. He was accompanied by his wife, a charming but serious young lady, who rarely smiles. When she does it lights up her face.

There was much discussion about the Sindh scenario, politics wise. Some guests felt that the new Chief Minister was not a politician and therefore not the right choice. "He would be well suited to a professorship, rather than the position he's been put in," said one. "He's too much of a gentleman for the politics of Sindh".

Murtaza Jatoi's "comeback" and his hobnobbing with the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] also came under discussion. People thought he was an extremely clever man, who was now looking to the President's position for himself.

"Who's being sacked next", joked some people referring to Murtaza Jatoi's removal from the Communications Ministry.

The British High Commissioner was in a very good mood and was wearing a brightly striped tie ("very un-British" whispered someone). He had been watching the cricket match, England vs. South Africa, and was thrilled that his side had won. Mrs Pocock, wife of the Australian High Commissioner, was also in the group, so there was some light-hearted teasing as well! Even the Pakistanis gloated at their win over the "favorites", since the Australian side had been termed as such before the matches began.

Mauritius is one of the few countries in the world where there is no ethnic strife and discontent, though there are Hindus, Muslims and Christians living on the inland. It's a quiet place with beautiful beaches, ideal for a holiday for

those who want to relax and enjoy the sun, sea and fresh air. So, if you're looking for a hospitable, friendly place to visit during the spring vacation, Mauritius is the place for you.

Political Parties: IJI Compared With PDA

92AS0757A Islamabad *THE MUSLIM in English*
6 Mar 92 p 7

[Article by Zahid Ahmad Khan; quotation marks as published]

[Text] Both The IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] and the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] are going through their paces. The internal fissures are eating into the vitals of these alliances. The major chunk of the external pressure to their stability is emanating not from their impotent political adversaries, but from the general public which believes that both IJI and the PDA are chips of the same block. Their denigrators are quipping that since both the alliances have more than contributed their wee bit to the national politics, they should now quit the scene for a more responsive leadership.

Our not too excelsior political alliances in our country have usually been seasonal due to internal and external pressures. However, the internal problems have usually proved to be more telling at the integrity of any such alliance, than the external challenges. The danger to the PDA and the IJI at present stems more from within than without.

There is a great hiatus between their real or putative achievements, and the tendencies of the common Pakistanis who were expecting that the change of government would usher in something new and ameliorating for them. The common man's expectation from his leaders has perhaps become a bit disproportionate as compared with the dismal performance of PDA and the IJI. The way they are discarding and reinstating their leaders speaks volumes of their inner anguish. The PDA and the IJI have only increased the miseries and tribulations of the people without solving any of their besetting problems. The solving of some highly technical problems by the IJI does not constitute any great achievement for it. For the poor masses, all these achievements are mere pipe dreams.

Another problem with them is that although the topnotch leadership belonging to both alliances has been discarded in the last general elections it is still resorting to string pulling from behind as and when it deems fit. This old leadership one way or the other is still affecting the policies of these alliances. These holdovers have carried over their 'principled politics' with all their personal likes and dislikes into the newer leadership that was created by the people in the fond hope of bettering their lot. The stubbornness and stolidness in the present politics is due in a large measure to the active presence of this old leadership in both the alliances. This is no exaggeration.

Readers may recall that the younger leadership in both the camps now and then throw feelers for any possible rapprochement with their political foes. However, the old guard is sticking to its guns. It talks about 'principled leadership', yet the first dictates of the principled leadership are that one should quit the scene after having been thoroughly rejected

by the electorate. At no stage in our politics has personal vendetta been given such a free hand as it is being given in the present day politics. The PDA and the IJI are responsible for allowing personal likes and dislikes to override national interests. The Jam-PPP [Pakistani People's Party] tussle in Sindh politics is a sad reflection on this hideous predilection of our mealy-mouthed politicians.

The abrupt manner in which the 'long march' of the APC [All Parties Conference] has been called off betrays the growing enervation in the PDA in maintaining a sustained political attack on the IJI. A very dismal phenomenon in the strategy of the PDA is the absence of sustainability in its objectives. The failure of the 'long march' is the height of this serious lacuna in the methodology of the PDA in confronting the IJI. The reason being put forward by the convenor of the 'long march' namely Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, that it has been put off temporarily because the holy month of Ramadan is imminent is untenable. It's unthinkable that the APC did not know before starting off the 'long march' that the month of Ramadan is just round the corner. The actual reason for the failure of the long march, in the first place, was that the public participation in it was negligible except at Sheikhpura where APC was able to muster a considerable gathering.

Another reason was that APC could not satisfy the participants of the long march on even a single issue. It merely rehearsed its hackneyed strictures against the IJI. The failure of the long march also shows that the public in Pakistan is no longer interested in agitational politics. They have elected their representatives. They want them to solve their regional and national problems in the elected fora.

IJI is also a house of cards divided against itself. Roughly speaking, only two parties in the ruling clique are in concert. The party of Ghulam Ishaq Khan and that of Nawaz Sharif. All other allied parties are now looking somewhere else. The show of unity that IJI so often brandishes, is in reality only a show of disunity. The leaders and the political parties, of IJI, who have any say in our regional or national politics, are not looking eye to eye with the top leadership of the IJI on major national and international issues. But how long will IJI be able to pass off its internal disunity is anybody's guess.

The top leadership of the IJI does not reflect the political aspirations of all the allied parties. Jamat-e-Islami seems to have fallen out with the IJI on the Kashmir and Afghanistan issues. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi another stalwart of the IJI has started contending that the IJI government in Sindh is due to his active political support. Presently, every leader, great or small, in the IJI is bragging about himself a bit too much. Perhaps they are realizing that sooner than later, they may have to fend for themselves, therefore, they should keep open their options.

IJI is not in a position to challenge effectively the onslaughts of the PDA. But this weakness on its part is paying it rich dividends. Whereas this reticence on its part in its earlier stages of tenure, was a deliberate attempt to sideline the PDA, now it has become a compulsion for the IJI. Small wonder then, the PDA in the absence of any concerted

governmental reaction to its numerous political movements and actions has failed to cash in on even a single of its numerous attacks against the IJI. Because, in none of its numerous agitations, has she or her sympathizers ever touched the ebullient point, so vital for the agitational politics in Pakistan.

Both the alliances are getting discreditable in the eyes of the public. The desperate need is to have another political power, not necessarily to hail from the present crop of leaders. The need for a 'third power' was nowhere more imperative than it is now.

IJI Coalition Urged To Safeguard Country's Viability

92AS0708B Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92 pp 5-6

[Text] Divergent speeches and statements on major policy issues by high-placed government spokespersons show that the mild criticism made in this column last week about the confusion that persists in the ruling coalition on important matters was inadequate; it was an unintended understatement which, without amplification, may seem to hide the awesome truth that the IJI's [Islami Jahmoori Ittehad] waywardness is apparently a result of congenital inability to evolve steady policies that are comprehensible and rational. Recently, the government's policy positions have shifted from day to day, and changed from one very important person to another. It is difficult to say whether this unusual demonstration of dithering is a result of usual incompetence, or that it is due to the fissures that divide each party within the disparately-constructed coalition. Anyhow, the one thing that these VIPs seem to have in common is that they are frequent victims of misunderstandings and misreporting, or their recorded words are quoted out of context. For some reason, even their confessions about past falsehoods do not create a great deal of credibility. Their many contradictions lead ordinary people to assume that the decisionmakers do not know what they really want. Why otherwise should their stance on questions of such great importance to the country's future change so often, with such dizzying speed.

One example of the government's strange style of policy-making is provided by the position adopted on the Kashmir situation. First, there was talk of friendly negotiations on the subject with India, then came Nawaz Sharif's inflammatory strike call, followed by the eleventh-hour decision to halt the JKLF [Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front] march across the Line of Control. Later, about a week ago, the prime minister gave his interpretation of the term self-determination, explaining that the Kashmiris had a third option open to them; they could either accede to Pakistan, remain with India, or chose independence. The prime minister certainly had a measure of logic on his side. This change in Pakistan's conventional position was not too surprising, because it could open the door to meaningful negotiations with India on Kashmir's future, and it should give satisfaction and hope to a large section of opinion in that beleaguered state.

Those who insist that Pakistan must adhere rigidly to the UN Resolution of 1948, which offered a plebiscite and the

possibility of accession either to India or Pakistan, claim that this new manoeuvre is meant to deprive Pakistan of what "belongs to it by right"; they forget that in this matter all rights belong to the Kashmiri people. They also forget that the independence slogan is not of recent origin; it was raised by Sheikh Abdullah himself as soon as he realised that the conditions on which he had endorsed Kashmir's accession to India were not being fully honoured. This led to his dismissal, arrest, and a long period of exile. Kashmir has a long history and the past needs to be remembered and studied with care before its future can be determined; and this must be in accord with its peoples' wishes and aspirations. Anyhow, as for the working of the IJI Government, the prime minister was first contradicted by the secretary-general, foreign affairs, then by the Foreign Minister of State Kanjoo, and a little later Nawaz Sharif himself was easily persuaded to revert to the old position and plead that he had been misquoted.

On Afghanistan, for many weeks Pakistan has declared that it had finally decided to endorse the UN Peace Plan for a ceasefire, an interim government, and ultimately the holding of elections under UN supervision. This charge is of vital importance of Pakistan because it involves the early return of Afghan refugees to their homeland and, thus, apart from casting off a heavy economic burden, it brings an opportunity to check the foul trade in guns and heroin. Already, hope of peace has allowed a trickle of refugees to start going back to their homes. However, it seems that pressures on Pakistan from parties and factions that are not interested in peace have continued, and the government has bent a little before this ill wind by declaring that, notwithstanding its approval of the UN Plan, it considers President Najib to be a "controversial person" who should have no place in the new interim set-up. Najib himself is ready to step down, but it is vital that no conditions must stand in the way of peace and that the Afghans must be left to decide for themselves what and whom they want during the interim period—and later. Further, it is not necessary for Pakistan's representatives to go on saying that it wants peace in Afghanistan, because without transit facilities through our northern neighbour, trade opportunities with the former Asian Soviet republics will be lost. Trade is certainly important, but it is far more important that everything must now be done to end the bloodshed in Afghanistan, particularly since the vast majority of the people of Afghanistan and Pakistan want peace—now.

On the question of nuclear non-proliferation, during this month a number of quick somersaults have been performed by government representatives. For year it was said that Pakistan's nuclear programme was geared solely to peaceful purposes and that this policy was firm and irrevocable. Recently, however, the foreign secretary—although it was first alleged that he had been misquoted—left no doubt that Pakistan had acquired the capacity to make a bomb; but, he went on to say, it had no intention of fabricating a weapon and that it would not export any nuclear technology it had acquired. In some sort of reflex action, this admission was immediately denied by the secretary-general, Foreign Affairs, but on second thoughts it had been confirmed. It

was then hinted that—having followed George Washington's historic example of speaking the truth—Pakistan would now be rewarded with a Presidential certificate that would save it from the discriminatory mischief of the Pressler Amendment. It was learnt later that some crumbs from America's aid table had been thrown into Pakistan's lap and these had been gratefully accepted, despite continued brave declarations about neither wanting nor needing U.S. aid. Later still, Pakistan's ambassador in Washington announced that it had halted its nuclear-weapons programme—something that it had never begun.

However future events may unfold, the Pakistan Government must somehow be persuaded to work out main policies with clarity of purpose and enunciate them with great care, instead of allowing different government spokespersons to speak in diverse tongues in different places, at different times. Such mismanagement of international affairs fosters the impression, both at home and abroad, that Pakistan has no clear-cut policy guided by enlightened national interest, and that it continues to zig-zag under alien pressures, always keeping in view the possibility of deriving some short-term advantage, be it in the way of aid or trade. In the main, the government of Pakistan shoulders the responsibility of dealing with three basic foreign policy issues; it should learn to do so in terms of Pakistan's long-term needs.

In Afghanistan it must finally abjure war, work wholeheartedly for peace and cooperate with all elements that seek to end the conflict in this shattered land. With regard to relations with our eastern neighbour and the question of Kashmir's future, earnest negotiations with India should be started as soon as possible on the basis of the Simla Agreement, because this offers the best chance of overcoming the incendiary situation and eliminating the threat of dangerous confrontation and disastrous conflict. For a host of reasons, Pakistan's interests are linked with those of the Kashmiri people; hence their wishes and aspirations cannot be ignored without paying the sort of price that past blunders have exacted from both. As for the question of its nuclear policy, Pakistan must stop playing games in a field that holds a variety of grave risks of which its policy-makers seem to be unaware. It must continue to push the sensible proposals it has already made for a five-nation conference on regional nuclear non-proliferation. It should, at the same time, seek a satisfactory arrangement with India on related matters, so that it can move from the present pact on not attacking each other's nuclear facilities to the next sane step of both sides pledging themselves not to make the first nuclear strike.

To make it easier for Pakistan to pull itself out of the morass created over the last fifteen years by dishonest and inept dictatorships, the ruling IJI coalition should try to discard its legacy and abandon its petty squabbles with the Opposition parties, consult with them on all matters of national importance, and obtain the cooperation they have offered repeatedly even if this means sacrificing its notorious satrap in Sindh. Let the IJI leadership, and those who are in a position to advise, it, learn to think in terms of safeguarding the country's viability and future progress, and these can

come through national development for which peace and stability are essential prerequisites.

Post-Ramzan Opposition Movement Announced

92AS0752C Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 25 Feb 92
pp 1, 7

[News Report: "Long March To Change to Opposition Movement After Ramzan"]

[Text] Lahore (Lady Reporter)—It has been learned that the long march planned by the All Parties' Conference [APC] will start before Ramzan. Afterwards, a regular opposition movement will be started. According to some sources close to the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance], retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan's party did not participate in this long march because they believe the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] government cannot be changed, even in 50 years, through peaceful demonstrations. It was also learned that Nawabzada Nasrulla Khan, convener of the PDA, and the APC decided that cooperation from some parties in the IJI will be sought to remove President Ishaq. In this context, the APC has contacted Ghulam Murtafa Jatoi. Meanwhile, some leaders of the Jamaat-i Islami have been contacted by PPP [Pakistan People's Party] leaders in Lahore.

JI's Amir on About Extending Frontiers to Central Asia

92AS0756B Islamabad HURMAT in Urdu 23 Jan 92
pp 29-32

[Article by Ikram Ghazi: "Pakistan's Frontiers Extending to Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan"]

[Text] Mr. Qazi Hussein Ahmed, emir of Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) Pakistan, met a large number of Karachi journalists on the "Meet The Press" program. He left the press conference triumphant. The journalists of the specific opposition lobby were planning to surround him. Qazi Sahib had succeeded in defeating the Soviet Union and the Soviet lobby in Afghanistan, and the lobby that considers Pakistan's interference in Afghanistan wrong is quite speechless and worried because of the positive situation developed for Pakistan in Central Asia. Now the "red dawn" and "red hurricane" have left them alone in the political and ideological fields. Perhaps that is why the journalists belonging to this lobby were sitting quietly, or their questions lacked sting.

When Qazi Hussein Ahmed arrived at the press club, he met many journalists over tea to discuss various topics. In the past, most leaders of the JI considered it sufficient to meet with the journalists in the Karachi offices of the NUR HAK. In the offices of NUR HAK, the publisher and editor of the journal, Mr. Shahid Ahmed Shamshi, would invite journalists that he and former JI leader Munawar Husan's liked. Those journalists were fed parathas (Pakistani bread), or some other journalists were invited for a party, and this was called a press conference. Now Munawar Husan has left Karachi and has become one of the two deputy secretaries general of the Jamaat-i-Islami at Mansura. It is expected that his administrative style will also move from Karachi slowly, those who were distancing themselves from the JI

will return to it again, and that those that were always distant from the JI will not feel embarrassed to approach it.

In any case, Qazi Hussein Ahmed gave the good news to those present at the "Meet The Press" program. He said that by the grace of God, Pakistan's borders were extended toward Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan. He announced that an interim government in Afghanistan will be established with the support of the mujahidin, and the government that will be elected will also support and cooperate with Pakistan. He said that a very favorable atmosphere has been created at the international level for Pakistan. At the same time, the number of conspiracies and dangers against the nation are also increasing. Therefore, he said, there should be total cooperation and political and religious groups must work together. He said, "I am willing to go and visit every political party to this end, and am starting a series of meetings with the leaders of political parties." In this context, he mentioned the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] especially. "This is a powerful party, and we cannot ignore the PPP if we want to establish law and order in Sindh. The government should work closely with the PPP." At the same time, he said that the PPP and the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] campaign against President Ghulam Ishaq was meaningless, and added that it would hurt, rather than help, the democratic system. He said that the PPP has some complaints against President Ghulam Ishaq; however, it should also check its own ranks and try to remove the misunderstandings. Qazi Hussein Ahmed said that the law and order situation in Sindh was everyone's problem, and that it could not be resolved by one political party. He declared that if law and order were not established, then Sindh would be financially destroyed.

While discussing the JI's leaving the IJI [Islamic Jamhoori Ittehad], Qazi Hussein Ahmed said that it could cause the fall of the present government, and that he did not want to be part of such an action. "However, the IJI and the present government are two separate things. The JI is opposed to the rulers because they are not following the IJI mandate." Qazi Hussein Ahmed declared the IJI a tight structure and said, "We do not know in which forum the government policies are made." He also criticized the government's privatization policy and said, "Some industries are being sold at very low prices, and nothing is being done to protect the jobs of the employees." About the MQM [Muhajir Quami Movement], he said that he had no differences with it, but he wished that they would stop pressuring his party members.

Let us discuss Qazi Hussein Ahmed's good news, criticism of the government, and his opinion of the IJI, the PPP, and the MQM as expressed in the "Meet The Press" program.

Since the Soviet armed forces left Afghanistan, they have been trying to find a political solution for the last three years. Unfortunately, Qazi Hussein Ahmed's cohort Afghan leaders have conceded a military solution over a political solution and are trying to sow seeds of dissension among the mujahidin. What is more, while sharing the good news about the victory in Jalalabad, Qazi Hussein Ahmed even distributed sweetmeats to the Karachi newspapers. Jalalabad, however, is still the same as it was in the past. Sheikh Jamil-ul Rahman's assassination at Kantar was blamed on

Hizb-i Islami which, under the leadership of Gulbadan Hikmatyar, is cooperating with Qazi Hussein Ahmed. Ahmed Shah Massaud, who used to be Qazi Hussein Ahmed's bodyguard, has become a bitter enemy of the Jamaat-i-Islami, Qazi Hussein Ahmed, and Hizb-i Islami. He has taken over some important areas in Afghanistan. After the Soviet Union disintegrated, the United States has pulled back its helping hand, and Saudi Arabia has formed a new policy according to which it is providing much less aid to the Afghan mujahidin. The Jamaat-i-Islami had an anti-Saudi Arabia policy during the Gulf war, and Saudi Arabia decided not to help the mujahidin that cooperated with the JI. However, it is still helping other mujahidin that had supported Saudi Arabia during the Gulf war and had went there to fight for it. In such a situation, Jamaat-i-Islami is telling the government of Pakistan to recall Pakistani troops from Saudi Arabia. They are talking about the fall of Saudi Arabian rulers and are ridiculing them. They have openly called Iraqi President Saddam Husayn Salauddin Ayubi. Given these developments, what Saudi Arabia did was proper. The situation in Afghanistan is reaching its final stage, and we should keep our country's policy in mind so that the sacrifices made by Pakistan and the mujahidin are beneficial to Pakistan. We are glad that even Qazi Sahib has agreed to a political solution to the Afghanistan problem. During the last 25 years, about 6 million Muslims have died in fights among themselves. About 1 million people were killed in the revolution in Indonesia. Several hundred thousand Muslims died in Bangladesh. Over 1.5 million Muslims lost their lives in the Iraq-Iran war. About 1.5 million Muslims were also martyred in Afghanistan. Several hundred thousand Muslims in Palestine, the Gulf war, and in Kashmir have died by fighting among themselves or against the enemy. However, the resolution of all these problems was found in bilateral talks, or one party was embarrassed by defeat. Only the enemies of Islam have benefited from all this. Therefore, it behooves Muslims now to think seriously and try not to solve every issue with the sword. Instead, they should adopt the policy of negotiations and cooperation. The disintegration of the Soviet Union happened without any major problems. The countries of eastern Europe became independent very quietly. Germany also became one in a friendly atmosphere. All these kafir [infidel] countries are resolving their problems and meeting their goals without losing any lives. We do not know why Muslims, who know that Mecca taught them to respect human life, like to solve every small and large problem with swords. They have started a jihad of killing each other. It is not wise to expect an Islamic movement in the Muslim republics in Central Asia that have been liberated from the Russian colonist empire after 70 years. Their immediate problems are the economy and social welfare, which had been destroyed by the Russian colonists. After these republics are economically stable, they will be able to implement Islam. During the last 44 years, and in spite of pro-Islam conditions here, we have done nothing but raise slogans for it here in Pakistan. Why are we expecting Islamic slogans from Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan?

We have cultural, racial, and religious relations with these countries. For economic reasons, the citizens, tribes, caravans, and armies of these countries have visited the subcontinent of India and Pakistan. The citizens of Central Asia have played an important role in the political and social changes in our country. In our foods, shami kebab and pilaf were introduced from Central Asia. Islam had truly arrived in this region after Mahmoud Gaznavi came here. The Mogul emperors had come from Kyrgyzstan. We had the Persian language here for a long time, and a new form of Persian poetry was started here during the 16th century. This form was very popular in Central Asia. The poetry of Qasim Baig Diwana, a poet of the 17th century, is very popular here.

Poet Bedil, who was born in Patna during the Shah Jahan era, was an Uzbek. He was famous as far as Afghanistan and Madar-al Nahar. Zebulansa, the daughter of Emperor Aurangzeb, who lived in Delhi, became very famous as a poetess after Bedil. The Persian community even in Central Asia reads Alansa's work with great admiration.

The relationship between Central Asia and the subcontinent improved greatly after the "arrival" of Islam. Both regions established relations and trade with each other when the red sun of communism rose. There were some major hurdles in relations between the subcontinent and Central Asia. With the disintegration of the Soviet Union, however, the Central Asian Muslim republics hope that close religious trade and cultural relations with Pakistan will be reinstated and that both regions will work together and help in the welfare of Muslims worldwide. In this context, we expect Iran and Turkey to help establish an Islamic bloc in this region. Even though Qazi Hussein Ahmed has said that Pakistan should work cooperatively with Iran and Turkey in order to establish close relations with the Central Asian republics, the fact that the Shi'a government of Iran believes that Azerbaijan, where a large number of Shi'a people live, should be under its influence immediately, and Turkey's belief that it should establish relations with industrialized Europe will not make Pakistan's work easy. Anyhow, work toward this goal should be done carefully and speedily. As a first step, trade centers in these Muslim republics should be established immediately, and in order to establish a close relationship, trade and delegations of scholars should be sent there.

Qazi Hussein Ahmed also said in the "Meet the Press" program that our nation is facing many dangers and crises; therefore, an understanding should be reached with the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and other political parties. It should be looked into whether our country is really in a crisis, or if the newspapers are spreading this feeling. In our opinion, this crisis is within the PPP ranks. This fascist party has reached the last phase of its life, and the era of fascist parties in the world is ending now. The PPP is a symbol of forced rule, atrocities, bad breeding, and instigation. Therefore, it is the PPP that is suffering from crises. Establishing some understanding with it means giving it a new life. Benazir Zardari wants cooperation with the PPP, and this means that all she wants is to get her husband Asif Zardari out of jail and excused from the cases filed against him. At the same time, Benazir herself wants to get rid of

various references made to her. Will Qazi Hussein Ahmed tell her what proposal Benazir has made for reaching an understanding with the PPP? Her politics are to get her husband, who has been jailed for violence, terrorism, and looting, out of jail. If this subject has not been discussed between the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] government and the PPP, then the PPP will never be ready for the cooperation. Qazi Hussein Ahmed has accused the PPP government of these things during the PPP's 20 months at the helm. He had declared himself the leader of the movement that wanted to throw the PPP government out, and had said, "We must throw this party, which is an agent of the Jews and Hindus, out." Does he want to pave the way for a party that has been involved in corruption, looting, violence, and terrorism to become legally acceptable, and to have this party excused from all these crimes just to establish an understanding with each other? We think that Qazi Hussein Ahmed must say that the cases filed against the PPP must be tried immediately, so that the people see justice being done. We believe that if Qazi Sahib is a well-wisher of this country, then he must feel that if an understanding with the PPP can be made without ignoring the references against Benazir Bhutto and all the accusations against her husband, they must agree that the PPP will not support the robbers in the future and will not be involved in violent and terrorist activities. It will try to encourage good political traditions. Only then can we establish law and order in this country and create an atmosphere of cooperation and harmony for our citizens.

Anyhow, we believe that the discussion that Qazi Hussein Ahmed raised about developing an understanding with the PPP only means that its candidates will cooperate with the Jamaat-i-Islami candidates during the upcoming municipal elections. This way, the MQM [Muhajir Quami Movement] will be defeated in Sindh, and the ANP [Awami Natioanl Party] in Sarhad. This could be his political strategy, and every political party has a right to make such a strategy in order to benefit the party.

Qazi Hussein Ahmed mentioned leaving the IJI and said that if the Jamaat-i-Islami leaves the IJI, then the present government will fall. We believe that the Jamaat-i-Islami does not have enough members in the National Assembly to carry a no-confidence motion against the Nawaz Sharif government. However, we can say that the government will lose its prestige because it is not working with its sister political party. The Jamaat-i-Islami still has the opportunity to be united and to be able to include its own cabinet ministers in the IJI government and show service for the people. If it fails, it should tell the people about its failure also. It should also tell the people what the Nawaz Sharif government did to it, and that it did not let the IJI serve the people. Considering the way Qazi Hussein Ahmed does not allow his party members to show their differences in public while they are still members of the IJI, he should follow the same principal with the IJI. As long as his party is in the IJI, he should not be badmouthing it. He is against sending his own cabinet ministers to improve things. If he really believes that the IJI is wrong and that it is like a "dead horse," then he should take his party out of the IJI on

principle. The government will fall when its time comes, and Qazi Sahib will not be accused of anything.

The IJI is playing a different role in our national politics. During the municipal elections in Punjab, its candidates faced the Muslim League-supported candidates and, by staying within the IJI, did not practice the party's own politics. Had it remained in the IJI and practiced its own brand of politics, then it would have been called unprincipled politics. If it practices politics separately, then we will get an idea of whether it has moved from where it was for the last 50 years or not. It should then work on its deficiency so that the IJI works fully and with real meaning to implement an Islamic form of government.

Qazi Hussein Ahmed has also warned us about the bad economic situation in Sindh. He said that if law and order are not established there, then there will be a serious economic crisis in Sindh within the next two years. He said that industries were either moving away from Sindh or were going bankrupt. The tendency of agriculture being very poor still remains. All this has happened because of the robbers, terrorists, and rabble-rousers in Sindh. The people involved in robberies, terrorism, and violence there are usually those who are protected by the PPP. If the PPP is opposed to Nawaz Sharif's government, then why is it taking revenge on the people through the robbers? If, through the talks for a mutual agreement, the PPP stops all these activities, then the critical situation in the country will end.

The fact is that the PPP and the big landlords are fighting their last battle for existence. For many years, Sindh's big landlords could not effectively join the Central government. Their interests are served only if the Central and state governments are behind them, so that their atrocious and extortion activities are protected by police and government officials. After President Ziaul Haq's long rule, these landlords did not gain much influence even during Junejo's government. During Benazir Bhutto's government, the landlords got some power back; however, their era of fun and frolic ended too soon. Now they are trying to blackmail the government by continuing these violent activities in Sindh to get their privileges back. If the government were to stop all support to these landlords and put the strong grip of the law on them, all of Sindh's problems could be solved in a few days. However, whenever this work is initiated, the PPP and its supporting groups start to cry about violations of basic human rights and begin to support these robbers instead of the common people.

The influence of the PPP is dying in Sindh. It learned about this by its efforts to have strikes during the Jiye Sindh movement. It also tried to have strikes through its own appeal and failed even in rural areas. The impression now is that the PPP is restricted to a few districts. Even in the case of Veena Hayat, the re-election in Sindh did not turn out according to Benazir's wishes. Because of all these failures, the desire for reconciliation talks in order to resolve the critical situation in our country is really Benazir's desire. She wants to have some room for breathing so that she can save herself and her followers from legal problems. During this time, she will regroup and take up another issue to start confrontations against the government. Therefore, Qazi

Sahib should think carefully and understand that confrontation with the PPP will not end and that there will be no benefit for our country by talking to the PPP. The PPP is now synonymous to unruliness, violence, and terrorism. If Qazi Sahib thinks that the PPP is very strong in Sindh, then it is the fault of Jamaat-i-Islami and the Muslim League. They did not do their job in Sindh effectively. Our problem is that wherever a political party becomes strong, the Jamaat-i-Islami becomes weak. Because of the strength of the MQM in Karachi and Sindh, the Jamaat-i-Islami lost ground there. As the PPP has become strong in Sindh, and the JI's work has almost disappeared. The ANP has started to get strong in Sarhad, and the JI has begun to become weak there. The PPP is becoming weak in Punjab now, and it is a good opportunity for the JI to fill the vacuum there. Anyhow, it is a must that all political parties should sit down together and think of ways to work together in politics. However, this seems to be a very difficult task in our country.

Jamaat-i-Islami Seminar Results Reported

92AS0756A Lahore ZINDGI in Urdu 15-21 Feb 92 p 14

[Article: "Two-Day International Seminar Participated by Leaders From 25 Islamic Nations"]

[Text] The 50th anniversary celebration of the Jamaat-i-Islami concluded in Lahore with a two-day international seminar. The nationwide celebration of Jamaat's golden jubilee started last year on 26 August with a huge meeting at Lahore's Mochi Darwaza. The title of this international seminar, held in Alhamara Hall, was "Sayyed Abuala Ali Maududi and the Influence of Jamaat-i-Islami on Related Islamic Campaigns." As Qazi Hussein Ahmed said while addressing a luncheon in honor of the foreign delegates in Mansura, "The purpose of this ceremony is not to celebrate; instead, we want to examine how much progress we have made towards the achievement of our goals and how much work is left."

All Islamic parties were invited to participate in this international seminar. Delegations from 25 countries participated enthusiastically. The largest delegation was from Egypt. This 20-member deputation was led by Mr. Mustafa Mashur, vice president of Akhwan-i al-Muslamun. The leader of Akhwan-i al-Musalmun of Jordan, Mr. Abdul Rehman Khalifa, said, "We came to Pakistan as soon as we were invited. This country was established in the name of Allah and for an Islamic form of government." Mr. Mustafa Mashur expressed his feelings, saying, "When I arrived in Pakistan, I felt as if I was in Egypt. By sitting among the Jamaat-i-Islami people, I felt I was sitting with my family." There were four meetings held during the two-day seminar. During this time, it was very cold and rainy in the city. In spite of this, not a seat was empty in the huge Alhamara Hall. The two meetings that went late into the night were also fully attended. During the last session, the joint announcement of the seminar was made. It was announced that the seminar, which was attended by more than 80 Islamic organizations, wanted to pay homage to Maulana Abuala Ali Maududi, founder of the movement to awaken Islam in modern times. They stated, "We announce that the

solution to all the problems faced by humanity is the sincere practice of Islam. Islam is a dynamic force, a social movement, and a political option. Therefore, Muslims around the world should accelerate their efforts to make Koranic law the supreme law of their nations." In the joint meeting, unity was stressed for the efforts of Muslims for independence and autonomy in Kashmir, Palestine, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Morocco, and Thailand. They also announced that the Indian Government's actions of murdering 21,000 Muslims in Kashmir and the arrest of 50,000 Muslims without any reason was extremely condemnable, and that the Islamic brotherhood looked at it with apprehension. They requested that the rulers of Islamic countries impose economic and trade restrictions against India in order to pressure it for a plebiscite in Kashmir. They also want to request that all prisoners, including Sayyed Ali Gailani, Mian Abdul Qayum, Mohammed Ashraf Sahrai, Professor Abdul Ghani, and Shabir Shah, be released. If India does not change its attitude, then the movement rising out of the occupied valley will make decisions on its future. The Islamic world supports this movement at the political, economic, social, and diplomatic levels, and is willing to take any steps necessary to stop India's oppressive goals.

The joint communique released also demanded that no government be established because of external pressure in Afghanistan. The sacrifices of 1.5 million martyrs should not be ignored at this point. While discussing Palestine, the communique asserted that it was not the problem of Palestinians and Arabs only, but of the whole Islamic world; it is a problem of resurrection of our religion. The Aqsa mosque is the third-largest mosque in the world, and it cannot be left at the mercy of the Jews. The conference supported the activities fully and showed support for the unity of the "Hamas" and other opposing groups. It also supported the full independence of Palestine and efforts for establishing Muslim religion. It condemned the conspiracy hatched by Western powers in Algeria. These conspiracies were seen as sabotaging democratic action and trying to suppress the democratically supported victory of the Islamic movement. The conference also condemned intellectuals and the Western news media active in providing the wrong information about the Islamic world and being busy defaming the holy religion. It condemned the deplorable attitude of the U.S. Government, which it has adopted against the decision for a democracy of the people of Algeria. It also condemned the United States for threatening Libya. The conference supported the Arab League's stand asked that the affairs relating to Libya be settled justly in an international court. The conference welcomed the establishment of an exemplary Islamic society in Sudan and condemned the Jewish efforts to destroy the influence of the Islamic world and the critical situation in the Gulf caused by the United States of America. The joint communique also stated that Iraq's attack on Kuwait was an aggression; however, restrictions on Iraq were seen to be depriving children of milk and Iraq's people of subsistence. The conference demanded that the restrictions be removed and citizen rights in Iraq be reinstated, Kuwaiti citizens jailed in Iraq be freed, and all people in all areas, including the Kurds, be given democratic and citizenship rights.

The conference expressed pleasure at the independence of Muslim republics in Central Asia. It is the duty of the Islamic world, especially of Turkey, Pakistan, and Iran, to establish social, educational, cultural, political, and economic relations with these republics. The conference demanded the reinstatement of human rights and citizenship rights worldwide, especially in the Islamic world. The protection of the rights of non-Muslim minorities in Islamic countries is the responsibility of the Islamic world. In countries where Muslims are minorities, they should have equal rights so that they can continue their economic, political, and cultural activities there, as well as be able to protect their identities. The joint communique further said that Muslim countries should work toward establishing joint defense and economic plans. Shari'ah rule in Islamic countries is not very far now. The days are not long off when the Muslim world will get rid of secular governments and live in Islam's cultural, political, economic, and administrative system. Societies based on justice and prosperous in the military and technical areas will be established. This is the goal that will help the welfare of humanity.

Tension Between MQM, Federal Government Continues

92AS0708G Lahore *VIEWPOINT* in English 27 Feb 92 pp 11-12

[Text] Despite the makeshift arrangement, the tension between the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] and the Federal Government continues. The MQM-backed CBA United Workers Front has served a notice of general strike on the Pakistan Steel [P.S.] management, which is controlled by the Federal Ministry of Production. General Sabeeh Qamaruzzaman has so far refused to back down on the CBA demand to take back—MQM claims 6,500, and P.S. management says 4,500—retainees and restore all privileges of the CBA office-bearers. On the other hand MQM has threatened to destroy peace in urban Sindh if these demands are not accepted. In Islamabad, defence services chiefs are reported to have held consultations on the situation in Pakistan Steel. March 1 will be the D-day when the strike notice expires.

Another MQM grievance is that its dissidents are being supported by Federal Intelligence agencies. Clashes between loyalists and dissidents have been taking place in MQM strongholds in which several people died and many were injured. The law-enforcement agencies have been acting as observers. Despite several deaths, no-one has been arrested.

While the political situation in the province remains confused, the dacoits in the interior are continuing with their depredations. They have increased their activities and the number of kidnappings has gone up.

On the other hand, Sindhi intellectuals under the banner of the Sindh Qaumi Sath, held a seminar on dacoits and demanded the setting up of a commission to probe into the causes behind the rash of dacoities and kidnappings. Speaking at the seminar, Mr. Rasool Bakhsh Palijo said that it was a conspiracy of the bureaucracy and military intelligence. He said that, on the one hand, the bureaucracy had

strengthened the hands of the dacoits and their agents called them 'freedom fighters' to malign the Sindhis on the other.

Mr. Palijo, Prof. Ghafoor, Prof. Memon, Mr. Husain Shah Rashdi and other were of the view that unemployment and a sense of deprivation among the Sindhi youth were the main reasons for increasing dacoities. Mr. Rashdi alleged that NLC trucks were supplying arms and ammunition in the interior of Sindh. Prof. Memon said that notorious dacoit Mohib Sheedi had the support of two Senators and many law-enforcement officers.

The participants urged the government to grant amnesty to the dacoits and provide jobs to unemployed young men.

PFUJ [Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists] Biennial

The Biennial Delegates' meeting of the PFUJ, held in Karachi on 16-18 February, expressed concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country, especially in Sindh.

The delegates were extremely critical of the ethnic, sectarian and student organisations which had shown a tendency of using increasing violence against the Press and dictating terms to newsrooms. They said that a number of journalists had laid down their lives in defence of their profession, many had been beaten up and many of their family members had received threatening calls.

At the conclusion of the meeting the delegates took out a procession condemning violence against the Press. The procession was mildly lathi-charged when it approached the Governor's House.

JUI Urges Enforcement of Islamic Financial System

92AS0708A Islamabad *THE MUSLIM* in English 27 Feb 92 p 5

[Text] Multan, 26 February: Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman, JUI [Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam] secretary general has asked President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to explain why he was reluctant to introduce Islamic financial system which was prepared when he was federal finance minister. He had declared in his budgetary speech that the draft of Islamic monetary system had been prepared and that next budget would be according to the tenets of Islam.

Talking to newsmen here on his way to D.G. Khan he said that where had the said draft gone. [sentence as published]

He told that a new alliance of religious parties had come into existence under the name of Islamic Democratic Front (IDF). It would be widened with the cooperation of other political forces and like-minded groups.

To a question he said that Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh, had joined the government of Begum Khalida Zia but Jamaat Islami in Pakistan had opposed the rule of a woman. JUI was opposed [to] the rule of a woman in letter and spirit.

He said our foreign policy is totally wrong because we have favoured Kuwait in the Gulf war but now Kuwait was supporting India on Kashmir. He said that foreign policy

dictated by United States was being followed in Pakistan which safeguarded the interest of Yankees.

The JUI chief said that Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had snatched the wealth of some capitalists by nationalising the industry but Mian Nawaz Sharif was adding to the wealth of capitalists by giving industrial units to them against meagre amounts under his denationalisation and privatisation policy.

The JUI chief said that Pakistani capitalists had transferred their wealth to the tune of 30 billion dollars to foreign countries and the present regime had failed to bring back this wealth to Pakistan. He said that this huge amount could help in debt servicing and making the country strong and prosperous. He also bitterly criticised the government's policy on Afghanistan.

Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman did not oppose the long march [of] All Parties Conference (APC) and said that JUI was ready to consider the invitation of APC with advance agenda. He said that Majlis-i-Shoora of Jamiat would decide whether or not, it should join hands with APC.

The JUI leader vehemently condemned the mud-slinging and vilification campaign launched by IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] government against ulema and employing unethical tactics to defeat a sectarian group in Jhang. He made it clear that JUI had no link with Spiah-i-Sahaba and it was a separate organisation of sectarian extremists. He said we had allowed our members to cooperate with suitable candidates.

Politics Hinted Behind Census Postponement

92AS0738A Karachi DAWN in English 17 Feb 92 p 11

[Editorial: "The Census Fiasco"]

[Text] The indefinite postponement for the second time of census-91 is an unfortunate development. None can be expected to welcome it, while some groups in Sindh have actually taken exception to the federal government's decision not to go ahead with the population count. Since no official announcement has been made explaining the postponement, it is difficult to assess the factors and considerations that have prompted it. All the more so because, according to reports the administration seemed set to proceed with the count on February 22.

In the last hundred years this is the second time that the decennial census has not been held on schedule. In 1971, it was postponed on account of the Bangladesh crisis but the exercise was carried out the following year at the first opportunity. This time it has already been postponed twice, which makes it a matter of concern, especially when prospects of its being held in the near future appear quite uncertain. It is plain that the census exercise has fallen victim to the political and ethnic polarisation that is troubling the country generally and the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan particularly. The initial postponement was occasioned by the controversy that surrounded the figures produced by the house listing operation of December 1990. According to that survey the population in some parts of the province had increased by an incredible leap of 700 percent in 10 years. It was obvious that the main ethnic groups in

Sindh were vying with each other to inflate their numerical strengths. This was expected to bring them political and other advantages.

There is, however, no denying the fact that a census which fails to produce authentic data about the population and its socio-economic and literacy status can create bigger problems than no census at all. After all, the census results form the basis of the government's planning for almost every sector of the economy and development as well as of the constitutional arrangement for the allocation of seats for representation in the legislatures on which political power-sharing rests. Also linked with it are such important matters as inter-provincial resource sharing out of the federal divisible pool, service quotas for various provinces and a rational distribution of educational facilities and so on between different regions within a province. But in the absence of updated statistics, the government will be left groping in the dark as far as economic and social planning goes.

Hence the urgent need to arrange for a census exercise that is carried out honestly and accurately. An effort was made to resolve the controversy by deciding to conduct the house listing and population count simultaneously this time. This should have helped smooth matters quite a bit. But without an understanding among the various political elements and ethnic groups, the counting could have proved to be not only a futile but also an unacceptably falsified exercise. It is not clear why the government did not use the one year breather that it had to pave the ground for a political understanding at least on a specific issue, namely, the census.

It is still not too late to work towards this end. In case the government feels that it just cannot produce a political consensus in Sindh on an honest conduct of the population count, it should proceed to carry out the undertaking in the other provinces, while decennial projections on the basis of existing data should provide rough estimates for Sindh. Thus actual data would at least be available for the rest of the country. Nevertheless, efforts should be made to pave the ground for a census in Sindh as soon as possible on the basis of an understanding among major political parties regarding the honesty and reliability of the exercise.

Government Scorned for Neglecting Further Nuclear Capability

92WP0166Z Karachi AMN in Urdu 9 Feb 92 p 2

[Editorial: "Pakistani Nuclear Policy and the U.S. Attitude"]

[Text] Mr. Shaharyar Khan, Pakistan's secretary of foreign affairs, said that Pakistan has frozen its nuclear program at the 1990 level. He revealed this in an interview with the BBC and said that even though Pakistan has the capability of making nuclear bombs, it has voluntarily decided on this step and has informed the U.S. Government of this decision. He also repeated Pakistan's stand on signing the NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty], stating that Pakistan would sign it on the condition that India also signed it. Meanwhile, the Voice of America (VOA), referring to the WASHINGTON POST, reported that Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan had admitted that Pakistan had all the ingredients to blast a

nuclear bomb, and that it can make a nuclear bomb anytime. Pakistan, however, has promised not to do so, and it will stand by its promise. It will not transfer nuclear technology to other Islamic or Third World countries. At this time, he also announced that Pakistan will not destroy its nuclear weapons and installations until India destroys its own. According to the VOA, Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan admitted that after the present government took over, no progress was made in the nuclear area.

The above statements issued by Pakistan's foreign secretary to international news media are very important. They also brought details of Pakistan's nuclear program into the open. The foreign secretary's statements and details cannot be called baseless, because he holds a very responsible and sensitive position. Such an irresponsible act cannot be imagined from a person of that importance. If the present government, after coming to power, stopped all development of its nuclear department just to have U.S. aid reinstated and to please U.S. leaders, it would be a deplorable action. This action of stopping work in this important department, which could mean life and death of Pakistan, is analogous to stopping Pakistan's progress. Important government officials have repeatedly announced that Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program is crucial to accelerating Pakistan's progress. Given this situation, for what reason did the government of Pakistan decide to suspend the work in its nuclear department? Only the people in power can explain this to us; however, the country did not benefit from this action, because U. S. aid is still suspended, and the U.S. Government is taking this goodwill act by Pakistan's as a weakness, and is putting more pressure on it. At the same time, it has told other Western nations to stop aid to Pakistan in order to force Pakistan to totally stop its nuclear program. In this context, one important aspect is that the United States of America accelerated its propaganda against Pakistan's nuclear program after the Gulf war. The obvious reason for this is to end the nuclear capability of Muslim nations so that no country in the whole world, especially in the Gulf, could challenge the United States of America. The U.S. policy is also evident in its actions and allegations against Libya. Perhaps this is the same reason that the foreign secretary was forced to give assurances that Pakistan would not transfer nuclear technology to any Muslim country. The government should have thought about the need for additional energy sources to establish new industries before it froze the nuclear program, and it should also have considered how it would meet the energy needs for industries if nuclear power was not available. It is true that the government has started several projects to counter the fuel scarcity in the country. These include the construction of dams in various areas; however, as everyone knows, the largest project in this context, the Kala Bagh Dam, will not likely be completed in the near future. Therefore, it is clear that the only reliable source for meeting the increasing energy needs of our nation is nuclear technology for energy. However, if the government has frozen all nuclear activities, as declared by the foreign secretary, then we will not be able to benefit from this plan, either, and our nation will have to depend on oil, the world's most expensive source of energy. It is not necessary here to say about oil that in spite of the

increase in oil production and the discovery of new oil fields in our country, we still have to import more than half of our oil. This results in a major portion of our country's foreign exchange being spent on oil. If we have to depend on oil to meet increasing energy needs, then our foreign exchange will not be enough for importing oil. Thus, our country will never be able to become self-sufficient.

In addition to this, one other aspect needs attention. The IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] leaders had made the nuclear program a special issue during the election and had accused the Benazir government of compromising on this program. They had promised that when they came to power, they would promote this program. Shaharyar Khan's statement, however, clearly indicates that the IJI leaders have not kept the promise they made to the people, and just to win the goodwill of the United States of America, have frozen the nuclear program. The government's attitude is against democratic principles and the dignity of the nation. It is equivalent to breaking the trust of the voters. The government must clarify its position in this context. It must take in confidence at least the representatives elected by the people.

Editorial Praises Publicized Nuclear Bomb Capability

92WP0166Y Karachi TAKBEER in Urdu 20 Feb 92
pp 5-6

[Editorial: "What Does at Least 'One Bomb' Mean"]

[Text] Mr. Shaharyar Khan, Pakistan's secretary for foreign affairs, told the world in Washington, D.C. on 6 February that Pakistan has the ability to make nuclear bombs, and that it has all the ingredients to make "at least one" bomb. There is no other significance of Shaharyar Khan's announcement, except that it was the first time Pakistan had officially conceded to having this capability. It was done by announcing, "I want to say this for the record." The other fact that Shaharyar Khan revealed is more important. He said that the work to enrich uranium had ended in 1990. He also announced that Pakistan would neither blast a bomb nor would it transfer any bomb or related technology to any Muslim or third world country.

In our opinion, Pakistan should also make it clear to the United States of America that the last mentioned fact, the promise not to transfer nuclear technology to another country, is dependent on the condition that Pakistan does not face frustrations in its economic development plans. Pakistan should not be forced to compromise its plans. If "nice" countries like the United States of America pressure international agencies and stop the provision of resources for Pakistan's developmental projects and it stops all military and other aid to Pakistan, then Pakistan will be forced to use such capability to earn revenue. At present, Pakistan has exported its manpower and expertise to Middle East and European countries to protect its economy and developmental projects. If the United States of America really wants to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, then it should not create such a situation for Pakistan that it is forced to use its nuclear capabilities to earn money. The Middle East and the Third World countries that are asking the United States of America and Europe to help them meet their defense needs,

and whose wealth the United States and European countries are using to fill their coffers, can approach Pakistan in the future for help in meeting their defense needs. Pakistan may not make an atomic bomb; however, it can create an army of nuclear scientists and provide their services to the countries that want them. This way, on moral grounds, it will be accused less than the United States of America and European countries that are selling weapons to these countries directly. They declare that such an act by a third world country is sinful.

What Shaharyar Khan has said is not new. The news about having enough material for making at least one atomic bomb was known even in 1990. Pakistan attained this capability and knowledge a long time ago. Even the late Ziaul Haq had openly said when he was alive that Pakistan had the capability to make nuclear bombs. He had also said that he would not do so. This capability was not attained in 1990, and according to Shaharyar Khan, in 1990 we stopped the uranium enrichment program.

After this announcement by Pakistan, India also had to admit that it has reached the phase of becoming a nuclear power. Indian Finance Minister Madhavsingh Solanki announced in an 8 February press conference, "What is an atom bomb? It is just part of defense preparation, and we are fully prepared in this area." He refused to elaborate further on his statement; however, there is an open hint in this sentence that India has finished that defense preparation that includes nuclear bombs. In other words, India also has nuclear bombs, and he had said this sentence in answer to a question asking whether India was thinking about making one.

In any case, the inquest lasting many years by the United States of America should end now. It wanted to know if there were nuclear bombs in the South Asian subcontinent. Both Pakistan and India have told the United States that they are nuclear powers. Now the United States of America should accept these new facts and change its attitude in light of them. The U.S. circles that are deliberating it and are trying to convince the world that Pakistan's geographical and political importance has ended after the disintegration of the Soviet Union, and that the important position Pakistan had because of the Soviet Union, and America's need of Pakistan in the Cold war has ended along with the Cold war are seriously mistaken. The Soviet Union, of course, is gone, but a major Muslim bloc has emerged in Central Asia. This bloc is uniting very fast. Even the United States of America itself has expressed concern that this Muslim block will replace the Soviet Union. It would not be surprising if the United States of America gets involved in a Cold war with this Muslim bloc. It means that Pakistan's geographic and political importance in the future will be exactly the same as it was in the past. The United States of America, in order to keep peace in the future, will be forced to give importance to Pakistan just as it did in the past. The Central Asian Muslim bloc will not only have nuclear power, but also will be able to attain nuclear technology to become very important. If the nuclear capabilities of countries from Pakistan to Kazakhstan are united, it will not be something one could ignore. If the United States wants to stop the Cold

war of the future, then it must establish friendship with the countries of the Muslim world, especially Asian Muslim countries. U.S. interests cannot be protected by placing obstacles, hostility, aggression, and opposition to everyone. It is well aware of Pakistan's capability. If Pakistan, by supporting a small country like Afghanistan can play a very important role in changing the world map, one can assume what kind of results can be gotten from Pakistan's expertise in the future.

Now that the United States knows that both Pakistan and India are nuclear powers in South Asia, it must keep a balance in its relations with the two. Ignoring India's nuclear capabilities, focusing on Pakistan's atomic capabilities, and adopting a policy of opposing it is totally wrong and nearsighted. Why did Pakistan become a nuclear power, and when did it decide to do so? The United States should not try to find the answer to this question according to its viewpoint. Instead, it should keep histories of India and Pakistan and their national ambitions in mind.

Pakistan has only one real danger from a defense perspective, and that is from India. It was forced to fight it three times during its 45-year history, and because of India's military action, Pakistan was divided into two parts 20 years ago. Therefore, all of Pakistan's defense preparations are to protect it from India alone. Except for India, Pakistan never had border problems with any neighboring country, nor did it have any danger of attack from them. Pakistan has no ambition of becoming a regional power or of establishing colonies in the future. None of its defense preparations have any aggression aims. Therefore, the regional or bilateral agreements that the United States of America signed in the past were not made because of a danger of communist attack. The reasons for these agreements, according to records available in Pakistan, were to make Pakistan's defense effective against India. Meanwhile, India's defense preparation are for attaining supremacy in this region, if not all over the world. We can cite one defense weapon, for example. This can show the difference between Pakistan's and India's defense goals. Both countries have made long-range missiles. The range of Pakistan's missiles is 300 miles at the most, while India's missiles have a range of thousands of miles. This shows the difference in their goals. The United States of America should evaluate the dangers and keep in mind the difference in goals. Pakistan's atomic bomb and its 300-mile range missile cannot pose a danger to the United States of America or its unknown lackeys. However, the fact must be considered that India, with its atomic bomb and thousand-mile range missiles, can be a danger to several countries. We must also consider whose nuclear bomb, between India and Pakistan, can be dangerous to the United States of America or the West. Why do countries on or near India's borders feel a danger from India? This should also be looked into. In spite of all these facts, if the United States makes India its friend to scare a harmless nuclear power like Pakistan, then we cannot call it anything but pure madness.

After the admissions by India and Pakistan that both are capable of becoming nuclear powers, both countries should also take some practical steps. Pakistan has always admitted

to the fact that India is not only a large country, but also has greater military strength. It also blasted an atomic bomb in 1974. Therefore, Pakistan always has to worry about its defense against India. However, it never had the illusion that it could annihilate India. Pakistan has never had the dream of becoming a major military power in order to impress India. All Pakistan ever wanted was for India to treat it as an equal, independent, and proud nation. It should not treat it as a subordinate or tributary country. In addition, the problems between the two countries, including the Kashmir issue, should be fairly and justly resolved with the support of international opinion. India's attitude and psychology, however, have always been the same—the one that a more powerful nation adopts on the basis of threats, bullying, and deception. It has repeatedly said that it will take everything by force. Now that Pakistan has come out of its phase of defensive weakness and embarrassment and is not dependent on major powers and military pacts for defense, it wants to tell India that although it may be a more powerful military force that with its nuclear bomb, Pakistan's existence could be endangered. However, India's capital of New Delhi is also within range of total destruction by Pakistan. Therefore, India should recognize the new facts and change its policies accordingly. It should consider resolving old issues according to old promises graciously. This will protect the 1 billion people in the two countries. As nuclear powers, both countries must adopt a responsible attitude, more understanding relationships, and friendships. The first need is that both countries follow the UN resolution and resolve the Kashmir issue. Both should then try to work on the problems in Punjab and Sindh and help each other so that strong foundations of friendship are laid.

Contradictions Seen in Nuclear Policy

92WPO167Z Lahore NAWA-I-WAQF in Urdu
11 Feb 92 p 10

[Text] Issuing an explanation of the interview given to the BBC and THE WASHINGTON POST by Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan, a spokesman of the foreign ministry said that in 1989 Pakistan had acquired the capability to make a nuclear bomb. "There is need to tell the truth in this regard." In the past this was not done and this hurt the country's credibility. In the statement that was drafted three days prior to the foreign secretary's, it was claimed that Pakistan had acquired nuclear bomb-making capability in 1990. But it was frozen at that stage and, in the future, Pakistan will neither make a nuclear bomb, nor will it export nuclear bomb-making technology to any Islamic or any other country. These are those conditions that the United States laid down for restoration of its aid and these have been fulfilled. But the third condition cannot be fulfilled as long as India does not do likewise and that is that Pakistan will destroy available material needed to make a Pakistan nuclear (bomb). The ink had hardly dried on this statement when the foreign ministry took the stand and said that this statement had been published out of sequence and out of context and the explanation was offered that Pakistan had acquired the capability to make a nuclear bomb in 1989. Why did the foreign ministry feel the need for this explanation? Was it because of the American charge that

Pakistan acquired nuclear bomb-making capability in 1989 and pressure was being applied to return it to a stage prior to 1989? Former American ambassador to Pakistan Robert Oakley had also reiterated in the last days of his tenure, that Pakistan had crossed the "Red Light" in 1989. The foreign ministry's recent explanation appears to be an effort to bring Shaharyar Khan's statement in line with American claims. But on the subject of the nuclear issue, the secretary general of foreign affairs, Akran Zaki, said in an interview with Radio Pakistan, that Pakistan does not have nuclear ingredients. Whereas the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Siddique Kanjoo, said in a talk with newsmen in Dubayy, that "Pakistan can make a nuclear bomb but has no intention of making one." Thus there are three different opinions on one subject and this is happening only in Pakistan while India has never resorted to contradictory claims. Indian Foreign Minister Madhavsinh Solanki in a recent statement said that a nuclear bomb is part of Indian's defense preparedness. But while refusing to elaborate any further he said that this basically is a matter for the ministry of defense. This statement contains a very balanced admission that India has nuclear capability but it refrains from unnecessary speech mongering, which has been occurring in Pakistan for the past several years. In our country every one is eager to say his piece on this most sensitive topic and, in the course of speech mongering, facts sometimes get distorted. The foreign secretary's stand is that the truth should be told but explanation after explanation is being issued on his statement and other responsible persons appear to be making different claims. Had the matter been confined to telling the truth, it would probably have been all right. Here more than is needed is being said. After all, countries such as Israel, South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico are also engaged in acquiring nuclear capability. Israel has got a stockpile of nuclear bombs. But in these countries government officials or scientists have never made tall claims. China developed its nuclear program so quietly no one came knew the name of its nuclear scientist who was responsible for achieving this. What is needed is that our responsible people should adopt a balanced attitude and, better still, an end should be put to this practice of making speeches and if necessary, it should be left to the prime minister to issue a policy statement so that current contradictions may be eliminated. At the moment all responsible people are guilty of spreading confusion and the foreign secretary's explanations are only making matters worse. This most sensitive national issue should not be left unattended.

Influence of al-Zulfiqar Group Reviewed

92WR0212Z Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 3 Feb 92 p 5

[Editorial: "Al-Zulfiqar: Who is Responsible?"]

[Text] The Sindh inspector general of police, G. Moinuddin, said that al-Zulfiqar was so deeply rooted in Sindh that unless a major operation was undertaken, there was no hope of success. Speaking to the press at Sukkur airport, he said that al-Zulfiqar's members had infiltrated government offices, the police and sensitive departments; he gave as an example the arrest of five police drivers who had joined the department in 1989 and were on duty at the [office of the]

DIG [Deputy Inspector General]. They worked as informants for al-Zulfiqar and because of them, any action planned by the police became known beforehand.

The inspector general may be telling the truth but for some time past, governments have been putting the blame for their own incompetence on someone else. Different governments have targeted different scapegoats. Under martial law, first the previous government and then the MRD [Movement for the Restoration of Democracy] was blamed; during the movement, there were jail breaks and dangerous criminals were set free but such jail breaks and the escape of criminals proved that the entire administration at the time was incompetent and careless. When Benazir Bhutto assumed office, every evil was blamed on the vestiges of the Zia regime. The Bhutto government also released criminals and presented wrong doers as martyrs and fighters for the right cause. Then the Islami Jumhuriyah government came into office and the hand of al-Zulfiqar and the People's Party is now being seen in every affair. It is a tradition with us that the party that loses office tends to ignore the law when it tries to demean the government. It is thus possible that the losing party's energetic supporters and members may have taken the law into their own hands; at any rate, our society is so constructed that any individual at any level who enjoys any power makes his own laws and this is true of large or ordinary landowners, industrialists, high-level officials or even religious figures with influence. These individuals will resort to unlawful activity in order to preserve their power but they are cunning enough to join every government and work under the umbrella of the law and the protection of the administration. However, when the government changes, the individual who fails to find protection has his crimes and actions unmasked. The same thing is happening now. As soon as the government changed, people took refuge in the Muslim League in droves and had their sins forgiven and their crimes washed away. Those who

were left are now being caught; but it is difficult to say that they are being caught for something they did not do.

On the other hand, the Sindh government in particular has named al-Zulfiqar on so many occasions that the people have begun to entertain doubts. Even if one accepts that al-Zulfiqar is the culprit, the responsibility still rests on the government of Sindh, the security department, and especially the inspector general of police who said today that al-Zulfiqar had deep roots in Sindh. The question is, what were the various law enforcement agencies including the police doing; the CIA Crime Investigation Agency] had wider powers than at any other time; but those in charge were busy having a good time and those who could have set them straight joined their festivities. As the saying goes, the people follow the religion of the rulers, and when the high-level officials of the police department as well act in this manner, not only al-Zulfiqar but any terrorist organization or criminal group can strengthen its roots. It is not surprising that the agents of these groups are to be found in the police and other government departments, seeing that the supervisors have their eyes closed. The situation now is such that employees working closely with the DIG are agents of al-Zulfiqar; these individuals have so infiltrated the police department that they notify the criminals of everything that goes on. The inspector general said that these individuals joined the department in 1989; he meant that they were recruited during the term of office of the People's Party. But it is now the second month of 1992; was it not the responsibility of the inspector general to cleanse the department of such elements? One can swallow such an excuse from a new inspector general; but G. Moinuddin has been in office for a long time. He should have been able by now to rid the police department of its black sheep. The inspector general should remember that the charges he has leveled prove the efficiency of al-Zulfiqar and the incompetence of the entire police and security administration. It would have been better if, instead of leveling charges across the board, law breakers were punished.

Increase in External, Internal Budgets Noted
92AS0736A Karachi DAWN (Supplement) in English
15 Feb 92 p 1

[Article by M. Ziauddin in Islamabad: "Big Increase in External, Budget Deficits"]

[Text] In the first 15 months of the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] government, Pakistan has received only about \$50 million of direct foreign private investment (DFPI), notwithstanding all the steps taken by the government.

The slow-down in the concessional multilateral and bilateral assistance since Nov. 1990—when the U.S. suspended its aid to Pakistan—has created a gap of at least \$2 billion in the requirement and availability of foreign capital in the same period.

The inflow of remittances from overseas Pakistani workers has also slowed down considerably since Feb. 1991 when the government lifted foreign exchange controls. Now most of the remittances seem to flow into the individual foreign currency accounts. As a result, while deposits, the inflow of remittances has gone down almost proportionately.

Meanwhile, export growth has slowed down to about 12 percent while imports have gone up by a hefty 18 percent—widening the current account gap by about 35 percent in the first six months of the current financial year.

So, while the current account deficit threatens to go off the mark by at least about a billion dollars (target for the year being \$1.9 billion), there is a definite possibility of normal capital inflows declining by at least about \$1.5 billion over the period.

Pakistan, would, therefore, need at least about \$4.5 billion (total current account deficit for the current year being estimated at about \$2.9 billion) by the end of June 1992 to settle its foreign accounts.

Individual Deposits Used

Of this, the government has already taken care of a billion dollars by using the deposits in the foreign currency individual accounts which carry an interest rate of about five percent and no minimum maturity period. This means the government needs to mobilise and keep ready a billion dollars all the time. So we come back to a figure of \$4.5 billion, which needs to be raised by end June 1992.

Meanwhile, government borrowings for budgetary support reached about Rs.[rupees]60 billion by the end of January, 1992. Independent economic experts believe that by the end of the year, the government would have borrowed at least about a Rs. 80 billion for budgetary support, which they say has become necessary not only because revenue collection has gone way-off the mark, but also because of the uncontrollable appetite of the government to continue to live beyond its means.

Despite the regular announcements of expenditure cuts, there appears to be no end to the government's profligacy.

It wants to spend but does not have the heart to penalise those who do not pay their taxes. And this has left the government with no option but to print notes—which it is doing with vengeance.

Notes should only be printed when the treasury is exhausted and, in the last 15 months of its rule, the IJI government has wiped out the treasury.

Privatisation and DFPI

It had banked on two things: quick and generous receipts from privatisation and a massive inflow of DFPI in response to its deregulation policies. Their hopes seem to have been misplaced.

The privatisation process has yielded no more than probably Rs. 2 billion and the deregulation has brought in no new DFPI. Even the \$50 million mentioned earlier were invested by foreign companies already operating in Pakistan and that too in expanding activities they are already in.

Independent economic experts said that if the government were to try its best to improve the position in the next five months, it can hope to bring down the gap that is likely to be created by the expanding budgetary and current account deficits to no less than Rs. 100 billion.

Federal Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz has already started talking in familiar sounding Jargon. He says nothing is left in the budget after paying for debt-servicing and defence. He is probably trying to build a case for the failure of his economic management over the last 17 months (he took over as the Finance Minister in August 1990). Also he is trying to prepare the nation for a new round of harsher taxes in the next budget he is in the process of formulating.

New Taxes

Independent economic experts said the imposition of new taxes would also fail to improve things as did the policy of deregulation and privatisation. In their opinion, the new taxes would only make the life of the common man more miserable but yield no additional income to the government as evasion would continue more blatantly in the absence of any measures to curb it effectively.

They have said in order to actually attract DFPI, Pakistan needs to establish the needed social and physical infrastructure—like roads, (not motorways)—telecommunication and perceptible improvement in law and order (which it has been deliberately kept in a state of anarchy for petty political reasons).

The \$60 million which are said to have come in through the stocks exchange will not meet the needs of the country. Moreover the individual foreign currency accounts investment in the stock exchange could vanish in a matter of seconds unless steps are taken to make Pakistan really and lastingly attractive for foreign investors.

Government Claimed Near 5 Trillion Rupees in Debt

92AS0660D Karachi JANG in Urdu 10 Feb 92 p 8

[News Report: "Government Using Debts To Meet Its Expenditures—Sartaj Aziz; Federal Investment Bonds and Treasury Bonds Issued To Get More Loans"]

[Text] Lahore (JANG Correspondent)—Federal Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz said, "The government is meeting its expenses by borrowing money. All of our resources are spent on paying old debts and defense." The finance minister was addressing a budget seminar in the Lahore Industrial and Trade Center. He said, "The government has no resources to meet its expenses. Money is being acquired by selling Federal Investment Bonds and Treasury Bonds. The situation is so bad now that the money that is acquired from selling these is spent on the interest on our old debts. More new debts are being taken at higher interest rates for government expenditures. At present, we are borrowing money at a 15-percent annual interest rate to meet our government's expenses. As a result, our debts have reached 4.5 trillion rupees. Annual interest for this debt is about 40 to 45 billion rupees that the government is paying now. The water has reached close to our nose now, and if it goes a little higher, we shall drown. If our resources and income do not go up from 150 billion to 300 billion rupees, then the situation will not improve. If our total income is 150 billion rupees, then 80 billion of this will be spent on interest and loans, and 70 billion rupees will be spent on defense. No money will be left for other expenses and developmental projects. There has been some income from the private sector; however, the burden of debts is increasing. If our income does not increase, then we will not be able to attain self-sufficiency." Mr. Sartaj Aziz continued, "We have not reduced government expenses. Instead, we have increased them. Even now, there are more staff than necessary in many government departments. The Pakistan steel mills can run with 15,000 people; there are 25,000 people employed there. Various duties in Pakistan are higher than those of any other country in the world, and we are trying to reduce them. We might reduce these duties from 125 percent to 90 percent. Because of the revenue problem, we cannot reduce these immediately. We will do so gradually, and within the next two or three years, these duties will be no more than 50 percent. In spite of the government revenue problem and because of good agriculture and water arrangements, our growth rate is 6 percent. We are trying to increase investment to increase the growth rate. We lack energy resources now. There is the problem of telephone communication, and we hope that these problems will be resolved this year. We also hope that the energy problem will be controlled in two or three years, because in the last 10 years, all of our investments were in real estate. We need value-aided industries. We have already started working on this, and later we will have income sources without levying new taxes. At the present time, if we do not introduce new taxes, then we will have an additional deficit of 10 to 12 billion rupees. If we print additional treasury notes to reduce this deficit, then there will be an additional increase in inflation." He said that the reforms being implemented were given legislative

protection. "We will try to give protection to these reforms by getting the votes of two-thirds majority of the Parliament so that in case the government changes, then that government will need to have a two-third majority in the Parliament to change this protection. This would not be easy." Discussing the fixed tax, Mr. Aziz said, "It is correct philosophically; however, it is not practical. The Federal Shariat Court is not working effectively. We are automating our excise duty system." While discussing the Shariat court's ruling on interest, he said, "When fiscal laws were to come within the sphere of the Shariat courts, the government at that time did not pay attention to it, and it appealed to the courts a little too late about the interest system." Referring to the fears of the foreign investors, he said, "The Shariat court has a special clause that protects foreign debts and the interest paid on them. As long as a new system is not implemented, the old one will not work [sic]. During the last few years, politics has entered into labor also. The political parties are using the labor force for their own interests. We are considering training centers for engineering and industry, as well as for making defense equipment. There will be a large package in the next budget." While answering a question about giving a construction contract for a motorway to a foreign firm, he said, "This is a very difficult question. Had our own industrialists agreed to work on the conditions on which the foreign firm had agreed—to construct the Lahore-Islamabad motorway—then we would have given this contract to them. The issue of reducing the retirement age is highly contested." Discussing the Kala Bagh Dam, he said, "We hope we will come to terms on it very soon. Some decisions will be made." While discussing the proposal for moral instruction in the nation, he said, "If it can be done by spending some money, then it does not matter how much it costs. We are ready to spend all the money necessary, and I assure you that we are going to ignore the numbers and be ready to spend all the money necessary."

Budget Deficit Said Reaching 60 Billion Rupees

92AS0659C Karachi AMN in Urdu 11 Feb 92 p 2

[Editorial: "Facing a Deficit of 60 Billion Rupees"]

[Text] The federal government faces a deficit of about 60 billion rupees for the current year and to make up for this loss, the government will have to resort to deficit financing. This fact was revealed recently by the state bank governor, I.A. Hanafi, in a national advisory council meeting on loans under his chairmanship. According to reports, in the first six months of the current year, the government had a deficit of 43 billion, 600 million rupees and this loss could increase to more than 60 billion rupees by the end of the year. While presenting the budget at the start of this year, the minister of the exchequer had predicted a deficit of only 14 billion rupees and had promised the people that not only would the government not present any mini-budgets but would also make up the expected deficit through cuts in nondevelopment expenditures. Recently, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan told the opening session of the Pakistan management association's convention that he expected the 5.3-percent target of economic development to be reached. He had claimed that industrial production had returned to its

former level, private investment was increasing, and the export target might be achieved. But contrary to the reassurances of the federal minister of the exchequer, even before the ink was dry on the budget and before the echo of the reassurances of the minister had died away, charges for various services were quietly increased and series of mini-budgets started. Over the last seven months, the prices of necessities have risen sharply; but in spite of increases in the prices of consumer items and necessary services, the government has not only failed to make up the expected deficit but also the amount of the budget deficit has increased to unbearable proportions. The situation now is such that the government will have to resort to deficit financing on a large scale and issue more paper currency. It is a commonly accepted fact that both these measures create a significant rise in inflation. At present, the rate of inflation is about 14 percent and, with deficit financing for 60 billion rupees and the issue of more paper currency, the rate of inflation should increase by another 10 percent, making it more than 24 percent. Life will then become unbearable for the average person.

The economic condition of the country poses a challenge to the authorities and proves that the measures for economic reforms, which the government has taken so far have not produced any positive results. The government's economic policies have failed and the predictions and projections of its economic planners have been wrong. Continuous economic pressure has made the situation much worse and the country is losing its inner substance and turning hollow. The government, which came into power flaunting slogans of self-sufficiency and self-dependence, is now forced to rely on loans. It is an established fact that in order to lead the country to self-sufficiency and get rid of the burden of loans, we will have to gather and use our internal resources. The government has activated these internal resources and used various measures to utilize them such as the sale of nationally owned industries, commercial organizations and banks to the private sector, the sale of various kinds of bonds on the government level and in particular, the opening of bank accounts in foreign exchange and the facilitating of free transactions in foreign exchange; but the manner of the sale of government industries has thrown suspicion on the entire activity. Allowing the opening of accounts and free transactions in foreign exchange has not produced the desired results and the reason is that the government has not succeeded in establishing public confidence in its measures for economic reform and progress and in providing suitable safeguards to industrialists and investors. In spite of the government's heightened claims, the entire country and in particular the province of Sindh, which is the economic backbone of the country, have been victimized by dissension and confusion. The province was in fact ruled by brigands and thieves as a result of which the common man had no security; and as long as investors and industrialists remain insecure, there can be no real investment in the country and as long as there is no large scale investment, the economic condition of the country cannot be improved.

If the government should create conditions under which it will take investors and industrialists into its confidence; when conditions will improve to the extent that the average

man will be able, without any hesitation, to travel to any part of the country at any time; when, instead of raising taxes and charges for necessary services, the quality [of these services] is improved and the present shortcomings in the system of tax collection are removed; when tax evaders are severely prosecuted and a correct balance is struck between taxes and the national revenue; when nondevelopment expenditures are cut and the millions of rupees spent on the hordes of ministers, advisers and deputies are used instead for improving public welfare and reducing the budget deficit, unless all these conditions are met, it will not be possible to save the country from the present economic whirlpool.

Article Faults Government for Price Increases

92AS0708J Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92
p 14

[Article by Akbar Ali Sial: "Crushing the Common Man"]

[Text] Recurring increases in the prices of essential commodities over the past one year have caused unprecedented problems for the middle and lower income groups of the country.

The current trend of increase in prices started with the Gulf crisis—during which the world economy took a severe battering. But now, a year after its conclusion, when several economies are well on their way to recovery, prices in Pakistan continue to rise mainly because of Government policies.

In the days preceding and following the budget, an impression was sought to be created that the Government was not willing to raise the prices of essential goods. But, the Government has raised the prices of inputs, which has led to across the board increases in commodity prices.

A prime example is the removal of the long-standing subsidy on fertilisers. Taken under IMF pressure, this action caused an increase of 20 percent in fertiliser prices. Similarly, flat electricity rates for tubewells, fixed at Rs.[rupees]60 per horse power, shot up to Rs. 147 per horse power. Likewise, the price of DAP [diammonia phosphates] also jumped from Rs. 180 two years ago, to Rs. 300 per bag at present.

With such basic inputs becoming so expensive, prices have shot up by 28 percent on an average, since the Federal Budget was announced last year. Basic electricity rates have risen 5.1 percent. Water rates, gas charges and phone call charges have all registered significant increases. Railway Fares were increased twice without parliamentary approval. PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] increased its fares by 15 percent as well.

With all these increases in prices upstream in the industrial or agricultural production process, a general price rise was but inevitable.

The burden of guilt falls on the Government. Decisions taken are haphazard and have, therefore, to come up for review again and again. Producers and shopkeepers try to keep one step ahead of the game and keep the prices up.

Article Reports on Modernization of Mirage Planes

92AS0756D Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 21 Feb 92 p 1

[News Report: "Work on Modernization of Planes Brought From Australia"]

[Text] Karachi (Staff Reporter)—The project to repair the 50-year-old Mirage airplanes bought from Australia is in its last phase. Experts in the Pakistani Air Force have made modifications to these airplanes. Eight of them will also be used for intelligence. It was learned through reliable sources that before the United States of America and its allies started a war against Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, these 50 airplanes from Australia were not only repaired, but also upgraded for better performance. These airplanes, bought for \$30 million, are currently in the final phase of repairs and performance enhancement at Pakistan's air force base at Kamra. Because Pakistan was for a long time [incomplete sentence as published].

Completion of Missile Installation Reported

92AS0660C Karachi JANG in Urdu 1 Feb 92 p 1

[News Report: "Pakistan Installed Missiles To Counter Indian Attack; Safety Precautions in Azad Kashmir; Restriction on People's Movement in Kahuta To Foil Guerilla Attacks"]

[Text] Islamabad (Special Correspondent)—According to reliable sources, it has been learned that we have taken the necessary steps to counter any sudden attack by India. For this purpose, on all routes for India's airplanes coming into Pakistan, land-to-air missiles have been installed. In order to protect any air attacks on the Kahuta atomic plant, special defense measures have been taken in Azad Kashmir. In order to stop any guerilla attack on Kahuta, all the activities of the local people around Kahuta have been restricted. People are restricted from this area, even after showing their national identification cards.

Article Analyzes Ban on School Cultural Activities
92AS0708D Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 27 Feb 92
pp 7-8

[Text] Acting presumably under the pressure of its wide-ranging obscurantist allies, the Punjab Government has issued a directive virtually banning cultural activities in all educational institutions for girls.

The Order—its very wording betrays the author's illiteracy—declares that “as already directed from higher authorities (heads of institutions must) ensure that dance programmes in various functions of female schools and colleges should be avoided as far as possible and that no male person is allowed to attend such functions, including photographers. No photographs of these functions should be published or printed unedited.” This confused and confusing order can only mean that cultural functions at girls schools, where activities like musical drill are often encouraged, will now be barred or the principals will be persuaded to act in a secretive manner and shut their doors to outsiders, even parents of the children taking part in such performances.

Apart from the inherent contradictions revealed by the departmental directive, the decision-makers' minds betray a total unawareness of the fact that the functions that girls schools and colleges organise have nothing at all in common with the nautch in places with which these gentlemen may be acquainted. [sentence as published] Further, there is no reason why the heads of institutions cannot be trusted to

ensure that the cultural activities allowed are within the bounds of decency and decorum. It also needs to be understood that extra-mural activities, including cultural functions, are an essential part of student life and help to keep the students away from a sneaky search for thrills and such indulgences as drugs or other equally unhealthy pursuits.

Our educational ministers would be well advised to pay greater attention to the important tasks faced by the country in their field. For example, a UNICEF report has concluded that, at its present rate of progress, it will take Pakistan another 200 years before it can attain 100 percent literacy. Even this estimate may be treated as being over-optimistic, because it is assumed that the country has already reached the level of 27 percent and that it will make steady yearly progress. In comparison with Pakistan's exaggerated 27 percent, India is estimated to have touched the level of 40 percent, Libya and Ethiopia 60 percent, and countries like Sri Lanka, Iraq and Israel exceed 90 percent. As for expenditure on education, even countries like Kenya, Ghana, and Botswana spend more than 20 percent of their GNP [gross national product] on education, while Pakistan's budget-makers can only squeeze out a miserly 2 percent. Obviously, Pakistan's educational planners need to readjust their priorities, if they want their names to be remembered for anything more than puerile waffling.

Anyhow, the silly blanket ban issued in respect of school functions makes no sense whatever and should be withdrawn immediately.

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